



America the Beautiful Challenge

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- U.S. Department of Defense
- Native Americans in Philanthropy

ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$7.4 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

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Lynx

OVERVIEW

In May 2022 the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) established the America the Beautiful Challenge (ATBC) with a vision to streamline and centralize a nationwide grant funding opportunity that could support a wide variety of voluntary conservation and restoration projects around the United States. The creation of the ATBC is a first step toward consolidating restoration funding from multiple federal partners and the private sector to enable grantees to develop and implement large-scale, locally led, collaborative projects that address shared priorities across landscapes including public, private, tribal, and working lands.

NFWF — joined by the U.S. Department of the Interior through the Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Department of Defense through the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program, and Native Americans in Philanthropy — announced an inaugural slate of 55 new grants totaling nearly \$91 million, leveraging \$50.7 million in matching contributions from grantees to generate a total conservation impact of about \$141.7 million. Additional support in 2022 is provided by the Bezos Earth Fund.

The ATBC encourages applicants to develop diverse landscape-level projects that address priority conservation and restoration needs, showcase cumulative benefits to fish and wildlife, enhance carbon sequestration and storage, engage with and benefit underserved communities, connect people with nature, and help safeguard ecosystems and communities through resilience-focused and nature-based solutions.

Specifically, the ATBC funds projects within one or more of the following overarching themes:

- Conserving and restoring rivers, coasts, wetlands and watersheds
- Conserving and restoring forests, grasslands and other important ecosystems that serve as carbon sinks
- Connecting and reconnecting wildlife corridors, large landscapes, watersheds and seascapes
- Improving ecosystem and community resilience to flooding, drought and other climate-related threats
- Expanding access to the outdoors, particularly in underserved communities

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STATES, TERRITORIES AND TRIBAL IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

Awarded to states, U.S. territories and Tribal Nations to implement on-the-ground projects that address ATBC program priorities on public, Tribal, and/or private lands.

Advancing Wetlands Mapping for Improved Regional Habitat Management in Bristol Bay (AK)

Grantee: Bristol Bay Native Corporation
 Grant Amount:..... \$1,000,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$25,400
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,025,400
 Map millions of acres of ecologically, economically and culturally important wetlands in Bristol Bay, Alaska, to improve region-wide prioritization and management for sockeye salmon and salmon habitat. Project is Tribally led and will help fill a critical data gap to inform the development and planning of restoration and conservation projects while providing jobs, training and learning opportunities for Tribal members and partners.

Connecting Wyoming’s Habitats for Migratory Species through Wildlife-Friendly Fences

Grantee: Wyoming Game and Fish Department
 Grant Amount:..... \$1,000,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$111,100
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,111,100
 Convert fences posing a threat to ungulate migration in Wyoming by removing, replacing and/or modifying fences to wildlife-friendly standards. Project will work with landowners and federal land managers and utilize existing partnerships to prioritize and implement 150 miles of fence modifications.

Enhancing Fire-Dependent Plant Communities in the East Gulf Coastal Plain Habitats (AL, LA, MS)

Grantee: Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks
 Grant Amount:..... \$4,330,100
 Matching Funds:..... \$1,185,400
 Total Project Amount:..... \$5,515,500
 Improve resilience of 90,000 acres of fire-dependent habitats including piney woods, blackland prairie and loess bluffs ecosystems through restoration, habitat management, invasive plant species control, revegetation, cost-sharing, outreach and training. Project will restore ecosystem services and increase capacity in the East Gulf Coastal Plains while strengthening partnerships with stakeholders, private industry and the public.

Floodplain and Tidal Wetland Restoration Design in the Yolo Bypass of the Sacramento River (CA)

Grantee: California Department of Water Resources
 Grant Amount:..... \$1,500,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$13,500,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$15,000,000
 Develop designs and engage stakeholders for the restoration of historic floodplains and tidal marsh in the Yolo Bypass of the Sacramento River in California. Project will advance plans

for a new sustainable floodway management regime using infrastructure and operations that mimic historic conditions of the area and benefit native salmonoids while supporting multiple existing land uses.

Healing Land: Landscape Scale Reconnection of Culturally and Ecologically Important Pathways (WA)

Grantee: Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
 Grant Amount:..... \$2,500,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$3,656,400
 Total Project Amount:..... \$6,156,400
 Restore the relationship between the land, water and people of the Columbia River Gorge by conserving ecologically and culturally important terrestrial and aquatic pathways. Project will implement seven habitat restoration projects on 1,540 acres, functionally reconnect the land and water on more than 6,000 acres, build capacity for Yakama Nation’s near and long-term leadership of this work at the landscape scale, and ensure climate resilience for people, wildlife and habitats.

Implementing the Maui Landscape Conservation Plan to Benefit At-Risk Native Species (HI)

Grantee: State of Hawai’i, Department of Land and Natural Resources
 Grant Amount:..... \$1,543,600
 Matching Funds:..... \$172,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,715,600
 Implementation of the first stage of the Maui Landscape Conservation Plan to protect and recover at-risk species on Maui Nui, Hawai’i. Project will prevent near-term imminent extinction of target plant species, expand horticultural expertise for propagation and reintroduction, and establish a state-wide survey and monitoring database for at-risk plants, invertebrates, water birds and sea birds.



Sockeye salmon

Improving Connectivity for Sea-Run Fish at Milltown and Woodland Dams on the St. Croix River (ME)

Grantee: Maine Department of Marine Resources

Grant Amount:..... \$5,000,000

Matching Funds:..... \$1,600,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$6,600,000

Expand aquatic connectivity for river herring and other at-risk species and enhance watershed health and local economic vitality in the St. Croix River and the Bay of Fundy. The project will significantly improve fish passage in historic spawning habitat and continue collaboration between U.S. Federal agencies, Canadian agencies, Tribal Nations, the State of Maine and other conservation partners.

Increasing Aquatic Habitat Connectivity at the Albright Dam in the Cheat River Watershed (WV)

Grantee: West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

Grant Amount:..... \$2,900,000

Matching Funds:..... \$290,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$3,190,000

Improve aquatic habitat connectivity and fish passage at the decommissioned Albright Power Station dam on the Cheat River in West Virginia. Project will restore hydrology and habitat for species like eastern brook trout and hellbender, improve climate and flood resilience, and enhance recreation on nearly 75 miles of river.

Integrated Habitat Enhancement Initiative to Benefit Native Species and Local Communities (GU)

Grantee: Guam Department of Agriculture

Grant Amount:..... \$1,726,700

Matching Funds:..... \$194,900

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,921,600

Enhance 100 acres of low-value habitat to reduce hazardous

wildfire fuel loads, thin acacia nurse trees, underplant native vegetation, and continue a community-backed restoration and resilience project in the village of Malessu, Guam. The project will implement upland restoration to improve habitat for at-risk species and mitigate impacts of floods and fires, which ultimately protects nearshore marine habitats from severe erosion and sedimentation.

Intertribal Approach to Restoring Plains Bison and Landscape Connectivity on Tribal Lands (MT)

Grantee: Fort Belknap Indian Community

Grant Amount:..... \$4,985,200

Matching Funds:..... N/A*

Total Project Amount:..... \$4,985,200

Advance ecosystem resiliency of lands allocated for bison restoration through the unique collaboration of Blackfeet, Rocky Boy, Fort Belknap and Fort Peck Native American communities in Montana. Project will enhance ecosystem function on 57,000 acres by supporting day-to-day operations of buffalo programs, remove or replace more than 100 miles of fencing with wildlife-friendly fence, and establish common rangeland monitoring across four Tribal communities to inform bison and land management.

Prairie, Stream and Wetland Restoration in the Sandhills Landscape of the Central Great Plains (NE)

Grantee: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Grant Amount:..... \$4,000,000

Matching Funds:..... \$900,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$4,900,000

Implement a voluntary, incentive-based program to promote vibrant grasslands and ranching communities, increase climate resilience and improve habitat connectivity in the Sandhills to benefit at-risk species like the greater prairie chicken. By engaging locally led partnerships, project will restore 800 acres of wetlands and four miles of streams, remove invasive plants from 75,000 acres of habitat, utilize prescribed fire on 32,000 acres, and perform native prairie seeding on 400 acres.

Restoring Coastal Habitat and Resilience at Culturally Important Cabo Rojo Salt Flats (PR)

Grantee: Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources

Grant Amount:..... \$5,000,000

Matching Funds:..... \$1,332,700

Total Project Amount:..... \$6,332,700

Restore coastal habitat and hydrological connectivity in two shore segments in Cabo Rojo to improve adaptation for sea level rise and reduce threats from coastal erosion and flooding. Project will benefit important shorebird migration stopover habitat for more than 25 species and enhance socioeconomic and cultural conditions for local communities.

* Match requirements for Tribally-led ATBC projects are covered by a contribution from Native Americans in Philanthropy.



Greater prairie chicken

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Pickerel frog

Reclaiming Resilience and Removing Barriers to Aquatic Organism Passage in Michigan Streams

Grantee: Michigan Department of Natural Resources
 Grant Amount:..... \$5,000,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$503,400
 Total Project Amount:..... \$5,503,400
 Remove 27 stream barriers located in 14 Michigan counties to restore aquatic organism passage for at-risk species including Eastern Massasauga rattlesnake, pickerel frog, and flutedshell and Elkhorn freshwater mussels. By partnering with local organizations and Federally recognized Tribes, project will reconnect nearly 200 upstream miles of rivers and streams and improve climate resiliency, riverine connectivity, aquatic organism passage and eliminate public safety risks.

Reducing Threats to Imperiled Oak Savannah and Woodland Ecosystems in the Upper Rogue Watershed (OR)

Grantee: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Grant Amount:..... \$2,787,700
 Matching Funds:..... \$4,405,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$7,192,700
 Reduce the threats of fire exclusion and conifer encroachment in oak savanna habitat through restoration actions in the Upper Rogue Watershed, Jackson County, Oregon. Project will help stabilize populations of oak prairie-dependent wildlife species; steward oak-prairie ecosystems that are resilient to degradation from climate, extreme fire, insects and disease; and establish partnerships and support for oak conservation to ensure long-term habitat protection and restoration.

Restoring Sockeye Salmon Habitat Connectivity at the Wallowa Dam (OR)

Grantee: Nez Perce Tribe
 Grant Amount:..... \$5,041,500
 Matching Funds:..... \$14,750,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$19,791,500
 Enable a collaboration among two federally recognized Tribes, an irrigation district, and the State of Oregon to complete rehabilitation of the Wallowa Dam to balance rural community resilience and economic benefit with improved aquatic habitat connectivity for at-risk fish. Project will complete final design, engineering and construction at the high-hazard dam to connect hundreds of miles of sockeye salmon spawning habitat.

Riparian Wildlife Corridor Restoration and Wildfire Recovery at Santa Clara Pueblo (NM)

Grantee: Santa Clara Pueblo
 Grant Amount:..... \$4,250,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$127,500
 Total Project Amount:..... \$4,377,500
 Perform post-fire and flood riparian and wildlife corridor restoration across Santa Clara Pueblo reservation lands in the Santa Clara Creek Watershed, the lower Rio Santa Cruz and Rio Grande River. Project will reconnect, protect and restore over 40 miles of important stream corridors that run from the top of the Jemez Mountains to the Rio Grande Valley by managing invasive species, re-establishing native habitats, improving fencing, and engaging the local workforce and communities.

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Least terns

River Cane Ecosystem Conservation and Connection to Keetoowah Traditional Practices (AR, OK)

Grantee: United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee in Oklahoma
 Grant Amount:..... \$1,907,100
 Matching Funds:..... \$14,300
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,921,400

Identify, map, restore and manage endangered river cane ecosystems within the historic homelands of the United Keetoowah Band through the Keetoowah River Cane Conservation Program. Project will provide new opportunities for Tribal members to access outdoor recreation sites, gather river cane for cultural uses, and participate in educational activities of culturally significant uses and interactions with river cane unique to Keetoowah traditions.

Southern High Plains Grassland Habitat Protection, Restoration and Enhancement (CO, KS, NE, NM, OK, TX)

Grantee: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
 Grant Amount:..... \$4,020,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$810,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$4,830,000

Support the Playa Lakes Joint Venture in work with five land trusts to advance grassland conservation across more than 250,000 acres of the Southern High Plains. Project will enable partners to deliver conservation and shared best practices according to the unique characteristics of their region while aligning their work toward a common purpose of positively and permanently benefiting habitat and wildlife.

Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Landscape Restoration and Community Engagement Initiative

Grantee: Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
 Grant Amount:..... \$4,900,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$869,700
 Total Project Amount:..... \$5,769,700

Restore the site of a former cranberry bog; expand aquatic connectivity and riparian habitat; build ecosystem resilience

of pine barrens, woodlands, shrublands and sandplain grasslands; and improve ecological function of coastal plain pondshores. Project will engage landowners and collaborate with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and other partners to complete large-scale restoration and build capacity for future conservation throughout the imperiled southeastern pine barrens of Massachusetts.

Stakeholder Driven Watershed Health and Resilience Partnerships in Colorado

Grantee: Colorado Department of Agriculture
 Grant Amount:..... \$4,000,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$1,112,600
 Total Project Amount:..... \$5,112,600

Prioritize five major watershed areas of Colorado for strengthened ecosystem and community resilience through habitat and ecosystem restoration, enhanced habitat connectivity, increased recreational access, and local community and workforce engagement. Project will be implemented by a diverse group of stakeholders at strategically selected sites for the benefit of imperiled species.

Targeted Grassland Habitat Restoration and Management in Priority Pennsylvania Landscapes

Grantee: Pennsylvania Game Commission
 Grant Amount:..... \$2,600,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$260,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$2,860,000

Increase priority grassland habitats for at-risk bird species in targeted geographies across Pennsylvania. By enhancing capacity to manage and restore grassland habitat, project will increase species population resiliency through native habitat planting, herbicide application, invasive species management, and prescribed fire on high quality public lands habitat while facilitating the expansion of these techniques onto private lands.



Eastern whip-poor-will

Tidal Wetland Restoration to Improve Oregon Coast Coho Salmon Habitat in the Siuslaw River Estuary

Grantee: Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians

Grant Amount:..... \$3,515,100
 Matching Funds:..... \$300,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$3,815,100

Restore populations of Oregon Coast coho salmon by re-establishing floodplain connection and improve natural watershed processes on over 180 acres of tidal wetland in the Siuslaw River Estuary on the Oregon Coast. Project will implement recently completed plans to remove and replace existing tide gate, breach an artificial levee, place large woody debris, re-establish and monitor tidal wetland vegetation, and implement additional priority actions identified in coho recovery plans.

PLANNING, COLLABORATION AND ENGAGEMENT FOR STATES, TERRITORIES AND TRIBES

Awarded to states, U.S. territories, and Tribal Nations for projects that enhance local capacity to implement future on-the-ground actions through community-based assessments, partnership building, planning, project design and other technical assistance-oriented activities.

Interagency Conservation Planning for Culturally Significant Species (NC)

Grantee: Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Grant Amount:..... \$300,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$9,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$309,000

Create an interagency planning collaboration to conserve rare and culturally significant species within the greater Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians ancestral landscape in North Carolina. Project will result in data management and modelling tools, including a planning atlas, updated management plans, and an integrated spatial database management system that will support strengthened conservation project partnerships and prioritized on-the-ground conservation efforts.

Blackfeet Ecological and Cultural Stewardship in the Ninnaastakoo (Chief Mountain) Area (MT)

Grantee: Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation

Grant Amount:..... \$937,500
 Matching Funds:..... N/A
 Total Project Amount:..... \$937,500

Formulate a conservation plan for stewardship of Crown of the Continent cultural and ecological resources within the Blackfeet Nation Ninnaastakoo boundary by creating community-based environmental assessments and working collaboratively with transnational stakeholders. Project process will build partnerships, increase collaboration, and result in a conservation plan that may identify habitat restoration sites for priority species and actions and community access and engagement opportunities.

Building Capacity for Indigenous Community-Led Environmental Monitoring in Southwest Alaska

Grantee: Igiugig Village Council

Grant Amount:..... \$339,900
 Matching Funds:..... N/A*
 Total Project Amount:..... \$339,900

Create sustainable community-led environmental monitoring capacity for six rural Indigenous communities in the Lake Iliamna region to assist with climate resilience and adaptation planning efforts. Project will partner with Indigenous Sentinels Network to co-develop monitoring plans and toolkits tailored to each community that can also serve as models for implementation in other communities.

Designing Central Wetlands Hydrologic and Habitat Restoration (LA)

Grantee: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Grant Amount:..... \$947,300
 Matching Funds:..... \$142,100
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,089,400

Complete the design phase for the Central Wetlands Restoration Project to alleviate impoundment and increase freshwater and sediment input, allow for planting of native vegetation, and identify opportunities for partner restoration activities on nearly 16,000 acres of marsh habitat. The project will conduct necessary site investigations, and complete plans, maps, drawings, specifications and other documents needed for permitting and bid.

Designing Habitat Connectivity and Ensuring Resilience for Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (NV)

Grantee: Summit Lake Paiute Tribe

Grant Amount:..... \$457,800
 Matching Funds:..... \$14,300
 Total Project Amount:..... \$472,100

Complete feasibility and design for fish passage and riparian restoration projects to improve the connectivity of the lake and its sole perennial creek within the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe Reservation. Project will build on the existing Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery plan to increase the resilience of fish and wildlife populations and Tribal capacity to address climate change and future drought conditions.



Lahontan cutthroat trout

* Match requirements for Tribally-led ATBC projects are covered by a contribution from Native Americans in Philanthropy.

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Developing a Lënapehòkink Cultural Heritage Homelands Fellowship Along the Delaware River (DE, PA, NJ, NY)

Grantee: Stockbridge-Munsee Community

Grant Amount:.....\$723,200

Matching Funds:..... N/A*

Total Project Amount:.....\$723,200

Bring Lenape Tribal youth back to ancestral lands, the Lënapehòkink, within the Delaware River watershed and in portions of New York to cultivate Tribal identity, cultural resilience, and provide career-orienting experiences and pathways for Tribal youth. The partnership between three federally recognized Lenape Tribes will coordinate the youth immersion program, support 18 youth fellowship positions, develop a program framework and create a long-term sustainability plan for the program.

Florida Forever: Collaborative Land Protection Planning for Efficiency and Habitat Connectivity

Grantee: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Grant Amount:.....\$245,000

Matching Funds:.....\$25,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$270,000

Review and refine of the boundaries of high-priority proposed acquisition projects for the Florida Forever program that will increase public access to natural areas, streamline habitat management, benefit at-risk species and expand habitat connectivity. This planning effort will help focus acquisition efforts and resources to complete landscape-scale conservation projects and improve the consistency of enforcement and resource management on protected lands.

Keya Wakpala Woicageyapi Wetlands Restoration and Nature-Based Community Engagement (SD)

Grantee: Rosebud Economic Development Corporation

Grant Amount:.....\$536,500

Matching Funds:.....\$16,100

Total Project Amount:.....\$552,600

Design Phase I of the Keya Wakpala Woicageyapi wetlands restoration project and connect the broader Sicangu community to restoration and conservation efforts in a culturally aligned and meaningful way. Project will produce a community-driven wetlands trail plan, an ecological inventory assessment informed by wildlife habitat priorities and culturally relevant food and medicine needs, and incorporate Indigenous Ecological Knowledge for the site.

Large-Scale Moose Habitat Restoration Planning in Northeastern Minnesota

Grantee: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Grant Amount:.....\$402,200

Matching Funds:.....\$41,400

Total Project Amount:.....\$443,600

Conduct five workshops with stakeholders to identify and prioritize the challenges for large-scale moose habitat restoration in northeastern Minnesota; develop strategies to address these challenges; identify three habitat priority areas



Moose in Minnesota

of 10,000 to 50,000 acres suitable for habitat restoration and determine an implementation plan. Project will result in a collaborative approach to large-scale moose habitat restoration that will address long-term moose population decline.

Maajii-akii-gikenjigewin: Launching an Indigenous Young Adult Conservation Crew (MI, MN, WI)

Grantee: Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Grant Amount:.....\$218,800

Matching Funds:.....\$42,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$260,800

Build a young adult Indigenous Conservation Crew (Maajii-akii-gikenjigewin crew) to support existing and future on-the-ground management plans on Fond du Lac Reservation. Project will conduct 34 monitoring studies and restore 100 acres through locally led conservation efforts that respect Tribal sovereignty and cultural knowledge while allowing young adults to gain skills and experience in land stewardship practices to prepare them for careers in the natural resource field.

Status Assessment and Conservation Planning for Cumberland Plateau Grasslands (AL, GA, KY, TN)

Grantee: Austin Peay State University

Grant Amount:.....\$495,300

Matching Funds:.....\$25,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$520,300

Develop a science-based status assessment and comprehensive conservation plan for the grasslands, savannas and other open ecosystems of the Cumberland Plateau of Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky and Tennessee. By working collaboratively with stakeholders, the project will produce a set of prioritized representation targets, a final recommended reserve network design for Cumberland Plateau open ecosystems, and a conservation vision that will focus ongoing restoration and protection work.

** Match requirements for Tribally-led ATBC projects are covered by a contribution from Native Americans in Philanthropy.*

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Swains Island Tropical Ecosystem Restoration and Invasive Species Management Planning (AS)

Grantee: American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources

Grant Amount:.....\$864,300

Matching Funds:..... N/A**

Total Project Amount:.....\$864,300

Engage community stakeholders and collaborate with conservation experts to identify opportunities and build capacity for tropical restoration and invasive species management on Swains Island. Project will create an operational and reforestation plan for long-term protection that supports at-risk terrestrial and marine species and re-establishes native flora on the 460-acre island to benefit the entire island ecosystem.

Wetland Migration Pathway Planning, Prioritization and Community Engagement (FL, MA, NC, NJ, RI, SC)

Grantee: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, NBNERR

Grant Amount:.....\$551,800

Matching Funds:.....\$100,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$651,800

Create a pipeline of tidal wetland migration pathway projects in areas served by National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERRS) in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and Southeast of the U.S. In cooperation with communities and local partners, project will identify migration pathway protection opportunities and priorities, develop or improve technical products such as maps and models, build a community of practice and create resources and guides to support pathway planning and assessment for all NERRS.

GRANTS TO BUFFER AND BENEFIT PUBLIC LANDS

Awarded to nonprofits, state, Tribal, territory, local, and municipal governments and educational institutions for projects that result in direct, on-the-ground conservation actions that benefit National Forests and military facilities. U.S. Department of Defense funds are prioritized to Sentinel Landscapes or areas that advance the military mission. USFS funds are intended to support invasive species detection, prevention and treatments benefiting USFS lands, as well as collaboratively developed fish passage and water quality projects on federal and Tribal lands.

Community-Based Invasive Species Management for Imperiled Herpetofauna (AZ, FL, NM, SC)

Grantee: Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy

Grant Amount:.....\$883,500

Matching Funds:.....\$176,600

Total Project Amount:.....\$1,060,100

Restore reptile and amphibian habitat through innovative and effective techniques to eradicate invasive species including noxious weeds, invasive bullfrogs, crayfish and fire ants in the Coconino, Tonto, Coronado, Gila, Cibola, Francis Marion and Apalachicola National Forests. Project will restore wetland and riparian habitat, establish local community crews, form an Invasive Species Council and develop educational resources for community engagement.

Controlling the Spread of Invasive Knotweed in the Upper Skagit River Watershed (WA)

Grantee: Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Grant Amount:.....\$252,300

Matching Funds:.....\$75,900

Total Project Amount:.....\$328,200

Coordinate long-term knotweed control and monitoring with collaborating agencies through an integrated and prioritized management approach along river corridors in portions of the Skagit Watershed within the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Project will survey and treat knotweed patches in priority zones, educate community members and restoration teams and distribute results of knotweed control work to other practitioners.

Detection and Response to Noxious Weeds in the Great Burn National Forests (ID, MT)

Grantee: Great Burn Study Group dba Great Burn Conservation Alliance

Grant Amount:.....\$854,100

Matching Funds:.....\$171,900

Total Project Amount:.....\$1,026,000

Utilize early detection and rapid response treatment of noxious weeds to restore a large block of habitat within the Nez Perce-Clearwater and Lolo National Forest to benefit species of concern, including grizzly bears. This project will result in four new monitoring programs and removal of hawkweed, Saint John's wort, knapweed and other invasives.



Grizzly bear in Montana

** U.S. Territories are not required to provide match under this ATBC category.

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Enhancing Climate and Watershed Adaptation Strategies in Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape (AZ)

Grantee: Borderlands Restoration Network

Grant Amount:.....\$977,000

Matching Funds:..... N/A***

Total Project Amount:.....\$977,000

Restore hydrologic and ecologic function to at least 700 acres by repairing degraded waterways through erosion control and revegetation, performing fuel reduction on 76 acres surrounding rural communities, eradicating invasive species from 28,000 acres of critical riparian habitat and engaging landowners and local youth throughout all activities. Project will enhance climate resilience and watershed adaptation strategies of the lands and waters of the Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape.

Habitat Management, Wildfire Mitigation and Engaging Communities in the Georgia Sentinel Landscape

Grantee: Georgia Forestry Commission

Grant Amount:..... \$1,046,000

Matching Funds:..... N/A***

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,046,000

Prescribe burn 20,000 acres on private land and 5,000 acres on public land, identify historically underserved communities to assist with prescribed burning and wildfire mitigation, complete at least 10 stewardship management plans per year, and support a workshop and an expo event. Project will enhance resilience within the longleaf pine ecosystem on the Georgia Sentinel Landscape through restorative fire management and landowner outreach efforts.

Increasing Capacity and Modifying Treatment of Invasives in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex (MT)

Grantee: Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation

Grant Amount:.....\$545,300

Matching Funds:.....\$288,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$833,300

Expand capacity for the prevention and treatment of invasive species within aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems of Lewis & Clark and Lolo National Forests. Project will add a new permanent full-time specialist to facilitate partner collaboration, create seasonal positions to treat noxious weeds, and expand an existing outreach and engagement plan to include invasive prevention.

Invasive Grass Detection, Prevention and Treatment Planning in Eastern Montana

Grantee: University of Montana

Grant Amount:.....\$674,100

Matching Funds:.....\$139,700

Total Project Amount:.....\$813,800

Develop decision-support tools to identify invasive treatment locations within U.S. Forest Service Region 1 where early detection and rapid response has the greatest potential for success. Project will facilitate surveillance of 1.2 million acres of shrubland, grassland and woodland habitat, and prioritize

locations for treatment in collaboration with Montana Invasive Grass Working Group and field technician positions filled through a recruitment partnership with Little Big Horn College.

Invasive Species Management in National Forests along the Appalachian Trail (GA, NC, TN, VA, WV)

Grantee: Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Grant Amount:.....\$515,800

Matching Funds:.....\$116,100

Total Project Amount:.....\$631,900

Monitor and remove non-native invasive plants and protect endangered ash trees in National Forest sites within the Appalachian National Scenic Trail corridor including the Chattahoochee-Oconee, George Washington-Jefferson, Nantahala, Pisgah and Cherokee National Forests. Project will engage both volunteers and Service Corps crews in on-the-ground activities to improve the ecological health of National Forests in the Appalachian Mountains.

Local and Tribal Collaboration for Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Invasive Species Management (MI)

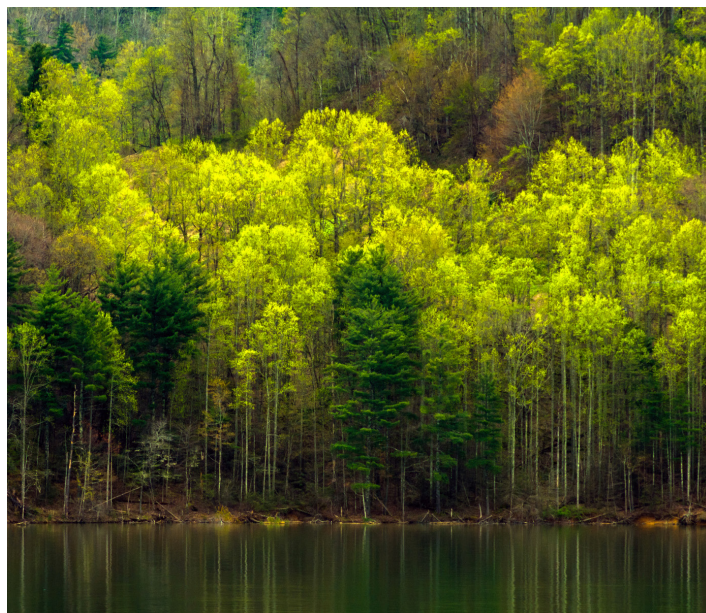
Grantee: Superior Watershed Partnership

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

Matching Funds:.....\$74,100

Total Project Amount:.....\$374,100

Collaborate with multiple local, regional and Tribal partners to employ invasive species management and water quality improvement interventions in Hiawatha and Ottawa National Forests. Project will improve habitat for at-risk species, water quality, ecosystem health, carbon sequestration, wildlife migration corridors, public access and climate adaptation.



Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee

*** Match is not required for projects receiving funding from the U.S. Department of Defense.

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Cutthroat trout in Idaho

Mine Tailing and Water Quality Restoration of Bull Run Creek in Wallowa Whitman National Forest (OR)

Grantee: North Fork John Day Watershed Council
 Grant Amount:..... \$509,300
 Matching Funds:..... \$111,700
 Total Project Amount:..... \$621,000
 Restore historic and natural floodplain conditions, enhance native plant communities and create fish habitat benefiting at-risk Middle Columbia River steelhead, bull trout and spring run chinook salmon. Project will clean up mine tailings to benefit Bull Run Creek aquatic habitat and build a cooperative effort between the North Fork John Day Watershed Council, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the Whitman Ranger District of the Wallowa Whitman National Forest.

Restoring Canyon Creek Stream Flow and Function for Fish, Wildlife and Water Users (ID)

Grantee: Friends of the Teton River
 Grant Amount:..... \$815,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$955,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$1,770,000
 Restore instream flow and improve irrigation infrastructure impacting Canyon Creek, upstream to the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, which is a major spawning tributary for a source population of Yellowstone cutthroat trout in the Teton River Watershed. Project will improve water quality and ecosystem function and will collaboratively address water supply and ecosystem needs for an entire sub-watershed.

Restoring Salmon Watersheds on Tribal Homelands and the Tongass National Forest (AK)

Grantee: Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition
 Grant Amount:..... \$630,700
 Matching Funds:..... \$193,800
 Total Project Amount:..... \$824,500
 Engage Tribal and community work crews in stream restoration, riparian forest thinning, and watershed assessment in salmon watersheds on Tribal Homelands of the indigenous Tsimshian, Haida and Tlingit people. Project will restore hydrology, wetlands and aquatic connectivity on the Tongass National Forest, Native Corporation lands, and other non-federal lands and will build local capacity to manage and steward culturally and ecologically important local salmon watersheds.

Treatment of Invasive Gorse and English Ivy to Protect Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon

Grantee: Curry County Soil and Water Conservation District
 Grant Amount:..... \$700,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$273,600
 Total Project Amount:..... \$973,600
 Manage established invasive gorse and English ivy to benefit native forest, pastureland, and riparian forest and reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire within the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest ecosystem. Project will contain the spread of invasive species at priority sites and continue to strengthen collaboration between dozens of federal, state, and local land managers, nonprofits, Tribal Nations, ranchers, small woodland owners and industrial timber.

(continued)

Western Klamath Community Stewardship to Benefit At-Risk Species and Native Plant Diversity (CA)

Grantee: Mid Klamath Watershed Council

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

Matching Funds:.....\$83,600

Total Project Amount:.....\$333,600

Remove invasive plants in forested and riparian areas and enhance salmonid habitat within the Klamath and Six Rivers National Forests while engaging local community volunteers and youth in project implementation, photo monitoring and data collection. Project will result in the implementation of Western Klamath Restoration Partnership priorities and involve community members in removing invasive plants, improving watershed health and restoring native plant diversity.

PRIVATE FORESTS, RANGELAND AND FARMLAND GRANTS

Awarded to nonprofits, state, Tribal, territory, local, and municipal governments and educational institutions for projects that support outreach and engagement with private landowners to advance voluntary conservation efforts on working lands that align with the NRCS’s Working Lands for Wildlife Framework.

Advancing Voluntary Conservation within the Working Lands for Wildlife Sagebrush Biome (ID)

Grantee: Heart of the Rockies Initiative

Grant Amount:.....\$212,000

Matching Funds:.....\$212,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$424,000

Create a shared position between the NRCS and Idaho Coalition of Land Trusts to support outreach and engagement for voluntary conservation efforts on working lands in the NRCS Working Lands for Wildlife Sagebrush Biome in Idaho. Project will expand and advance the Agricultural Lands Easement program within the State of Idaho among interested and qualified producers.

Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to Farmers for Shorebirds of Louisiana Wetlands

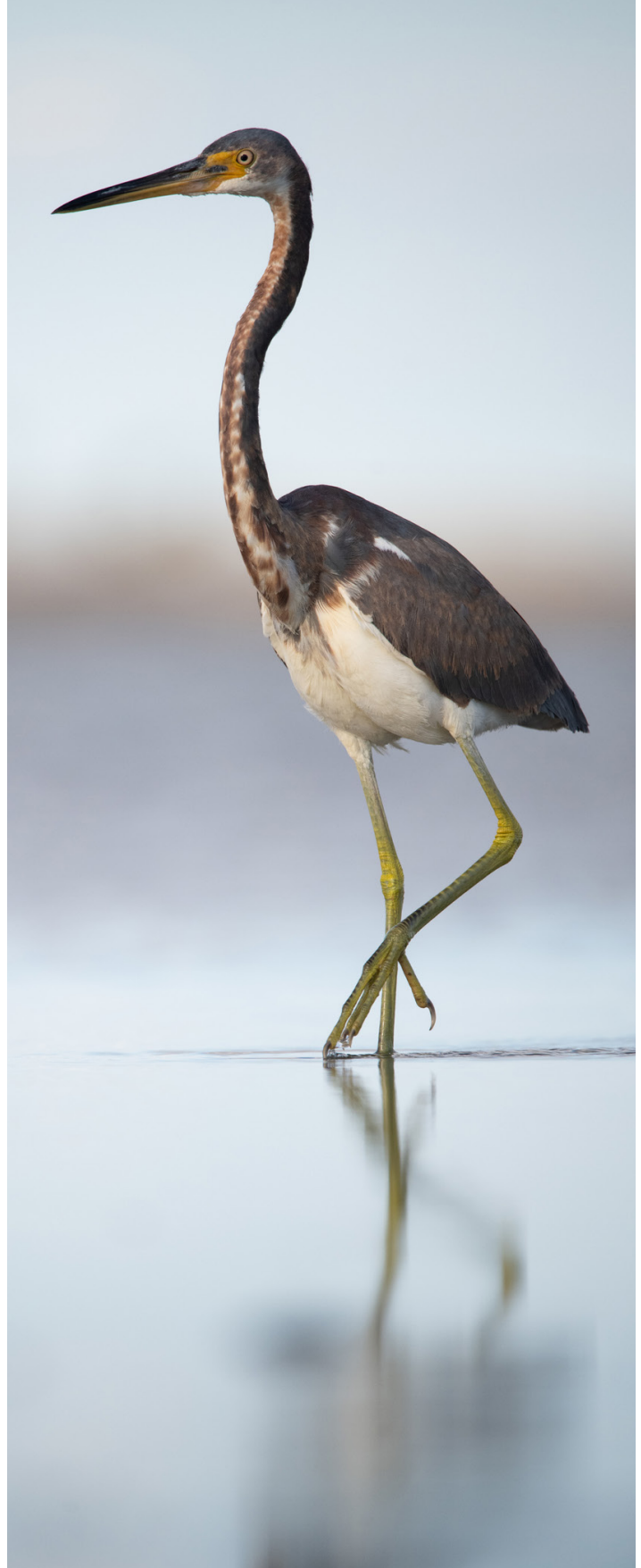
Grantee: Manomet

Grant Amount:.....\$217,600

Matching Funds:.....\$218,500

Total Project Amount:.....\$436,100

Increase capacity and technical assistance for farmers and land managers within the Working Lands for Wildlife Louisiana Wetlands Shorebird initiative. Project will increase delivery of improved habitat provisioning, expand the initiative to include a wider variety of practices, target outreach to historically underserved and Special Emphasis categories, and enhance International Shorebird Survey monitoring to measure the response to practice implementation.



Tricolored heron

(continued)



Golden-winged warbler

Elevating Great Plains Conservation through Technical Assistance for North and South Dakota Producers

Grantee: National Audubon Society
 Grant Amount:.....\$256,400
 Matching Funds:.....\$299,800
 Total Project Amount:.....\$556,200
 Strengthen technical assistance provided to private landowners within the Working Lands for Wildlife Great Plains Grasslands Biome in North and South Dakota. Project will sustain two positions, a range ecologist and a grassland technician, and implement improved management practices such as prairie restoration, prescribed burns, regenerative infrastructure installation and landowner planning workshops.

Private Forestland Restoration in Support of Golden-Winged Warbler Corridors (NC)

Grantee: EcoForesters
 Grant Amount:.....\$200,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$200,000
 Total Project Amount:.....\$400,000
 Prioritize engagement with private landowners located in western North Carolina and on Tribal lands to increase access to cost share funding programs to implement planning and restoration activities benefiting wildlife within the golden-winged warbler Working Lands for Wildlife Initiative. Project will engage landowners through free workshops, consultations, and resources and incentives for planning, and will provide technical assistance and implementation in prioritized forest areas.

Riparian Habitat Restoration for At-Risk Bird Species on Working Lands in Southern California

Grantee: American Bird Conservancy
 Grant Amount:.....\$265,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$265,000
 Total Project Amount:.....\$530,000
 Improve watershed health and riparian habitat to support the recovery of imperiled birds including the southwestern willow flycatcher as part of the Working Lands for Wildlife initiative. Project will restore riparian habitat, remove invasive plant species, and improve watershed health through regenerative grazing and habitat management on private lands.

Working Lands for Wildlife Black Duck Partnership in New Jersey and across Delmarva (DE, MD, NJ, VA)

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited
 Grant Amount:.....\$348,300
 Matching Funds:.....\$349,400
 Total Project Amount:.....\$697,700
 Advance on-the-ground delivery, help with project designs, and conduct outreach to new landowners by providing engineering technical assistance to implement the Working Lands for Wildlife Black Duck program across applicable Delmarva and New Jersey wetlands. Project will lead to restoration of high-quality wetland habitat while concurrently building relationships with local landowners to foster further community/peer investment in conservation.