Emergency Coastal Resilience Fund

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ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds. Learn more at **www.nfwf.org**

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Storm damage in Florida following Hurricane Michael in 2018

Overview

Hurricanes Michael and Florence, Typhoon Yutu, and the coastal wildfires of 2018 caused more than $50 billion in damage and severely degraded a range of wildlife habitats. Congress provided funding under the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-20), allowing grants to be awarded through a partnership between NFWF and NOAA. NFWF's Emergency Coastal Resilience Fund was launched in August 2019, two months after Congress passed the emergency supplemental appropriations bill, to support natural and nature-based infrastructure that will help impacted communities and wildlife recover and be better prepared for future events.

The following 27 projects address two priorities: 1) building coastal resilience through restoration and enhancement; and 2) addressing design and engineering barriers to coastal resilience. This slate represents $48.5 million in grant funding which has been further leveraged by $68 million from grantees, generating a total conservation impact of more than $116 million. These projects will use nature-based infrastructure such as living shorelines, wetlands, dunes, coastal forests, floodplain habitat, and coral reefs to achieve the dual benefits of improving human community resilience while also improving the ecological integrity of coastal ecosystems and enhancing fish and wildlife habitats.

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Wildfires in California

Dauphin Island Causeway Shoreline and Habitat Restoration Project (AL)
Grantee: Mobile County Commission
Grant Amount: $7,851,645
Matching Funds: $25,659,989
Total Project Amount: $33,511,634
Complete design and implementation for breakwater and a coastal marsh in Mobile Bay on the east side of the Dauphin Island Causeway. Project will create and protect critical coastal marsh habitat and reduce the vulnerability of the only emergency/hurricane evacuation route between the mainland of south Mobile County and Dauphin Island.

Comprehensive Community-Based Debris Flow Mitigation and Habitat Restoration (CA)
Grantee: The Project for Resilient Communities
Grant Amount: $2,477,273
Matching Funds: $3,029,914
Total Project Amount: $5,507,187
Mitigate future flood impacts from debris flows and improve steelhead trout migration and habitat by removing passage barriers and restoring riparian areas. Project will excavate debris from ring nets, increase debris basin capacity, remove fish barriers, improve native riparian canopy and work with the community to increase awareness of the interconnectedness of watershed functions and flooding.

Regional Wildfire Mitigation Program for the Santa Barbara South Coast (CA)
Grantee: California Fire Safe Council
Grant Amount: $5,472,641
Matching Funds: $3,515,000
Total Project Amount: $8,987,641
Establish long-term wildfire resilience of shrubland-dominated watersheds and human communities on increasingly fire-prone landscapes in Southern California. Project will develop a comprehensive assessment of wildfire risk and vulnerability, as well implement a nature-based strategy and solutions for the built environment, natural landscape, and citizens along the coastal wildland-urban-interface region of Santa Barbara County.

Santa Monica Mountains Woolsey Fire Recovery and Adaptation Program (CA)
Grantee: Conservation Biology Institute
Grant Amount: $2,500,000
Matching Funds: $3,602,928
Total Project Amount: $6,102,928
Create a comprehensive fire prevention program for the region, focusing on homeowner outreach and education while conserving and restoring plant and wildlife habitat functions by improving homeowner practices and reestablishing native oaks in critical locations. Project will leverage prior and ongoing planning efforts to achieve

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Least tern chick in Florida

more sustainable and resilient approaches to wildfire management in the Santa Monica Mountains region.

Project Name: Enhancing Wetlands and Corals Resilience in Saipan's Priority Management Watershed (CNMI)
Grantee: CNMI Office of Planning and Development
Grant Amount: $1,679,215
Matching Funds: $325,274
Total Project Amount: $2,004,489
Build community resilience in Saipan's most populated priority management watershed through wetland and coral reef restoration. Project will restore 2.5 acres of wetlands and one acre of coral reefs benefitting over 250 species including endangered as well as economically important species, and establish a pipeline of projects to reduce flooding and pollutant runoff and increase community resiliency.

Identifying Priority Sites for Reef Restoration in Saipan (CNMI)
Grantee: SymbioSeas . . . . . .
Grant Amount: $249,972
Matching Funds: $230,000
Total Project Amount: $479,972
Develop a framework for identifying, prioritizing candidate sites to implement coral reef restoration in Saipan. Project will assess restoration need, restoration feasibility, and likelihood of short and long-term coral survivorship.

Shoreline Stabilization and Enhancement Plan for the Beach Road Pathway (CNMI)
Grantee: Pacific Coastal Research & Planning
Grant Amount: $248,903
Matching Funds: $60,130
Total Project Amount: $309,033
Develop a Shoreline Master Plan for a highly used six-mile portion of Saipan's western coast. Project will produce a comprehensive management plan as well as select one project for further development and implementation.

City of Mexico Beach Wetland Restoration and Dune Installation (FL)
Grantee: City of Mexico Beach
Grant Amount: $335,908
Matching Funds: $3,736,000
Total Project Amount: $4,071,908
Restore 45 acres of wetlands to address flood control, water quality and habitat restoration, and complete design of a beach dune to protect against storm surge and establish beach vegetation habitat for the benefit of species. Project will conduct planning, design and permitting required to get the project construction-ready and implement wetland restoration.

Coastal Dune Lake Hydrologic Restoration (FL)
Grantee: Walton County, Florida
Grant Amount: $1,224,604
Matching Funds: $1,175,396
Total Project Amount: $2,400,000
Remove two old and dilapidated culverts vulnerable to

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American oystercatcher in North Carolina's Rachel Carson Reserve

catastrophic weather events under County Road 30A and replace them with bridges on two coastal dune lakes. Project will restore the connection and circulation of the lakes and improve the lake community and adjacent ecosystems.

Franklin County Living Shoreline (FL)
Grantee: Apalachee Regional Planning Council
Grant Amount: $7,443,063
Matching Funds: $8,312,000
Total Project Amount: $15,755,063
Install nearshore reefs to reduce wave energy and allow the creation of expansive intertidal salt marshes to protect 12 miles of shoreline and Highway 98. Project will improve Apalachicola Bay's health and productivity with anticipated benefits to include 12 miles of shoreline habitat improved and roadway protected, 30 acres of intertidal marsh created, 20 acres of estuarine reef created, and almost 3,000 community residents benefitted.

Okaloosa Island Dune Restoration and Enhancement (FL)
Grantee: Okaloosa County
Grant Amount: $60,000
Matching Funds: $60,000
Total Project Amount: $120,000
Project Summary: Install sand fencing and plant native vegetation across a three-mile stretch on Okaloosa Island. Project will reestablish the sand dunes to mitigate lost habitat and create additional habitat and the native vegetation will help stabilize the dunes especially during major storm events.

St. Joseph Peninsula Dune Habitat Enhancement Project (FL)
Grantee: Gulf County Board of County Commissioners
Grant Amount: $3,700,000
Matching Funds: $1,300,000
Total Project Amount: $5,000,000
Restore three miles of shoreline on St. Joseph Peninsula through sand and vegetation restoration. Project will provide coastal resilience by increasing the stability and longevity of the beach sand and encouraging additional dune growth through trapping wind-blown sand, increasing storm protection by limiting the damaging effects of storm surge, and promoting wildlife protection and increasing habitat.

Veterans Park Living Shoreline, Erosion Control and Habitat Restoration (FL)
Grantee: Okaloosa County
Grant Amount: $1,500,000
Matching Funds: $1,500,000
Total Project Amount: $3,000,000
Install a living shoreline to protect over 2,200 linear feet of shoreline at Veterans Park on Choctawhatchee Bay. Project will reduce the impact of wave energy and provide oyster habitat, a seagrass recruitment area, and a salt marsh shelf.

Brunswick Town Fort Anderson Shoreline Restoration Project (NC)
Grantee: NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
Grant Amount: $2,002,500
Matching Funds: $1,516,669
Total Project Amount: $3,519,169
Install a living shoreline to protect 1,000 linear feet along

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the Brunswick Town/Ft. Anderson State Historic Site by attenuating wave action and mitigating erosion. Project will protect and provide salt marsh and oyster habitat, and safeguard the site's historical resources.

Building Adaptive Shorelines for Resilient Coastal Communities (NC)
Grantee: Carteret County Shore Protection Office
Grant Amount: $1,513,500
Matching Funds: $1,514,941
Total Project Amount: $3,028,441
Project Summary: Construct living shorelines to naturally stabilize and protect 3,800 linear feet of eroding estuarine shorelines at two significantly important project sites within Carteret County. Project will enable the communities of Beaufort and Down East to enhance existing resilient infrastructure, and protect commercially and recreationally important fish, shellfish, submerged aquatic vegetation habitat and the largest colony of nesting royal terns in North Carolina.

Clear Run Branch Drainage Improvement and Stream Restoration (NC)
Grantee: City of Wilmington, North Carolina
Grant Amount: $1,410,345
Matching Funds: $4,500,000
Total Project Amount: $5,910,345
Construct a stable stream channel that can safely accommodate high flows from upstream development during storms and alleviate flooding along the channel. Project will improve wildlife habitat and decrease flood risk through stream and floodplain restoration or enhancement of 7.5 acres of floodplain habitat and 5,900 feet of stream channel.

Enhancing Aquatic Connectivity Resiliency and Flood Capacity in the Black River Watershed (NC)
Grantee: Cape Fear Resource Conservation & Development
Grant Amount: $500,000
Matching Funds: $500,000
Total Project Amount: $1,000,000
Complete the engineering, design and replacement of two culverts for the purpose of enhancing up to two miles of stream habitat within the lower Black River basin to improve aquatic connectivity resilience and flood capacity for local coastal communities and fish habitat. Project will improve drainage in these areas and decrease the likelihood of overbank flooding and road overtopping during storm events.

North Duck Village Living Shoreline (NC)
Grantee: Town of Duck
Grant Amount: $384,011
Matching Funds: $384,011
Total Project Amount: $768,022
Construct 1,100 linear feet of sheetpile sill and restore eroded wetlands along the shoreline of Currituck Sound. Project will create a more resilient coastal edge, improve coastal habitat, and protect the adjacent sidewalk, bike lane, and Duck Road that serve as the primary transportation artery along the Northern Outer Banks.

Northern Mariana Islands

Overcoming Local Barriers to Implementation and Getting to Shovel Readiness (NC)
Grantee: NC Dept of Environmental Quality
Grant Amount: $1,141,047
Matching Funds: $830,000
Total Project Amount: $1,971,047
Establish an incentive-based state framework which will support comprehensive local community resilience planning and build upon an existing vulnerability assessment and knowledge base that will help strengthen ecosystems at the Rachel Carson Reserve. Project will protect the Town of Beaufort and result in several shovel-ready projects that increase the resilience of natural resources and coastal communities in North Carolina.

Protecting Education Infrastructure, Critical State Roadways and Estuarine Habitats with Living Shorelines (NC)
Grantee: North Carolina Coastal Federation, Inc.
Grant Amount: $2,719,349
Matching Funds: $2,894,489
Total Project Amount: $5,613,838
Install three large-scale living shorelines that will protect important community infrastructure as well as restore and protect vital salt marsh and oyster habitat in Bogue Sound and the White Oak River. Project will result in a total of 3,518 linear feet of saltwater marsh living shorelines, protecting and restoring a total of over 23 acres of salt marsh, oyster and upland habitat.

Restoring Pocosin Hydrology to Improve Flood Resiliency and Wildlife Habitat (NC)
Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
Grant Amount: $820,644
Matching Funds: $220,314
Total Project Amount: $1,040,958
Restore hydrologic conditions across a prioritized 7,500-acre area of drained headwater pocosin wetlands on the southern portion of Angola Bay Game Land. Project

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Anglers at an oyster reef in South Carolina

will produce a finalized design and install restoration infrastructure that will enable managers to effectively control drainage levels, providing community flood resilience benefits in the Northeast Cape Fear River floodplain while enhancing pocosin wetland habitat.

Shoreline Restoration and Tidal Wetland Creation at the Battleship North Carolina (NC)
Grantee: USS North Carolina Battleship Commission
Grant Amount: $1,250,000
Matching Funds: $1,583,931
Total Project Amount: $2,833,931
Restore 800 linear feet of estuarine intertidal shoreline and create approximately two acres of intertidal estuarine marsh habitat within a North Carolina Significant Natural Heritage Area. Project will remove and reconnect two acres of existing parking lot to the Cape Fear River, resulting in two acres of tidal wetland creation to build resilience against future storms and sea level rise.

Church Creek Habitat Restoration and Flood Protection Project (SC)
Grantee: City of Charleston, South Carolina
Grant Amount: $1,345,000
Matching Funds: $1,354,825
Total Project Amount: $2,699,825
Implement nature-based solutions and green infrastructure to protect critical infrastructure in and around the Church Creek Basin, promote community resilience around the basin and in surrounding communities, and enhance ecosystem services and hydrological function. Project will complete 33 acres of floodplain restoration, 2.5 miles of instream restoration, 28.5 acres of land restoration, and 29.5 acres of wetland restoration.

Informed Scenario Planning For Community-Wide Resilience Strategy Building on Kiawah Island (SC)
Grantee: Kiawah Conservancy
Grant Amount: $125,924
Matching Funds: $170,180
Total Project Amount: $296,104
Address barriers to coastal resilience by engaging stakeholders within the community to reach a consensus on the use of nature-based solutions to increase resilience to flooding and natural hazards for both human and wildlife communities. Project will engage stakeholders in scenario planning, and discuss the use of nature-based solutions within the barrier island community.

Johns Island Restoration Plan to Improve Flood Resiliency (SC)
Grantee: City of Charleston, South Carolina
Grant Amount: $117,500
Matching Funds: $117,500
Total Project Amount: $235,000
Reduce barriers to coastal resilience by producing a preliminary floodplain restoration planning framework that will integrate ecological function to increase the overall resilience of Johns Island's communities, fish and wildlife. Project will evaluate how and where stream naturalization, floodplain protection and enhancement, wetland restoration/creation, and other nature-based infrastructure can be used to mitigate current and likely future flood risk on the island.

North Charleston Restoration for Resilience (SC)
Grantee: City of North Charleston
Grant Amount: $200,000
Matching Funds: $10,000
Total Project Amount: $210,000
Conduct Restoration Master Planning for three waterways, with parallel goals of reducing flood risk and restoring habitat. Project will advance three site-level concepts to 30% design and explore the potential for design-build delivery of the projects to be initiated alongside other local efforts.

Creating Coastal Resiliency through Living Shoreline Strategies (VA)
Grantee: Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission
Grant Amount: $219,410
Matching Funds: $90,968
Total Project Amount: $310,378
Assist homeowners in Mathews County through the Fight the Flood program to design, permit, install and monitor living shorelines that meet Federal Emergency Management Agency storm event standards. Project will survey locations for living shorelines in targeted locations on the East River and the North River.