



Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund

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PARTNERS

- Bayer Crop Science
- Shell Oil Company
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.1 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

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Monarch butterfly

OVERVIEW

In 2015, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) established the Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund (MBPCF) to address recent population declines and ensure the survival of the monarch butterfly and other at-risk insect pollinators. In 2020, the program announced \$1.7 million in funding for thirteen projects to provide technical assistance to private landowners or improve habitat for monarchs and other insect pollinators. Grantees committed an additional \$3.3 million in matching contributions for a total conservation impact of more than \$5.0 million. The fund is a public-private partnership administered by NFWF with funding and other support from Bayer Crop Science, Shell Oil Company, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The 2020 projects address two key strategies:

- Providing technical assistance to expand pollinator conservation efforts on private working lands
- Improving the availability of high-quality pollinator habitat

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Karner blue butterfly

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The following projects provide technical assistance on private working lands to help working lands managers and producers develop management plans, implement conservation practices, and enroll in Farm Bill programs to improve working lands functions and enhance pollinator habitat across an array of land ownership.

Midwest Technical Assistance to Improve Pollinator Habitat on Working Lands (IA, MN)

Grantee: Monarch Joint Venture
 Grant Amount:\$185,023
 Matching Funds:\$185,025
 Total Project Amount:\$370,048
 Provide technical assistance to private landowners by hiring one pollinator habitat specialist to increase agricultural stakeholder engagement and habitat implementation in Minnesota and Iowa. Project will restore 400 acres and improve 200 acres, develop 40 plans, host 10 events, reach 250 people and develop the Farmers for Monarchs website.

Expanding Technical Assistance for Prescribed Burning to Improve Pollinator Habitat (MO)

Grantee: Pheasants Forever
 Grant Amount:\$200,000
 Matching Funds:\$200,000
 Total Project Amount:\$400,000
 Provide technical assistance for private landowners in Missouri by hiring a prescribed fire coordinator to provide guidance

about pollinator conservation, develop prescribed burn plans, and coordinate outreach and education about prescribed burning, including hosting a prescribed fire summit. Project will improve 4,000 acres, develop 75 plans, host 10 events, and engage 500 people.

Accelerating Technical Assistance to Landowners to Support Pollinators on Working Lands (OH)

Grantee: Pheasants Forever
 Grant Amount:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:\$413,112
 Total Project Amount:\$713,112
 Provide technical assistance to private landowners to accelerate adoption of pollinator conservation practices in Ohio by hiring a Farm Bill biologist and sustaining a coordinating wildlife biologist. Project will restore 500 acres, improve 2,000 acres, develop 125 plans, host 50 workshops, and reach 1,200 people.

HABITAT IMPROVEMENT

The goal of this conservation strategy is to create and sustain a connected patchwork of habitat that supports insect pollinators and the annual migration of the monarch butterfly. Emphasis is placed on restoring and enhancing land to support ample milkweed and nectar plants. Additionally, this strategy includes work to ensure an adequate supply of seed or plugs of native milkweed and nectar-producing plants to support habitat restoration efforts.

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Habitat Restoration and Enhancement for Pollinators in Pennsylvania

Grantee: Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania

Grant Amount:\$91,703

Matching Funds:\$92,021

Total Project Amount:\$183,724

Support monarch butterflies and other pollinators in Pennsylvania by planting flowering trees and shrubs, cultivating milkweed seedlings, conducting invasive species control, adjusting mowing practices, and monitoring bumble bees. Project will restore 145 acres, improve 130 acres, propagate 6,800 seedlings and reach 1,000 people on private agricultural lands and public nature reserves.

Project Name: Project Wingspan: Enhancing Agricultural Lands for Pollinators (IL, IN, MI, OH)

Grantee: Pollinator Partnership

Grant Amount:\$99,570

Matching Funds:\$123,500

Total Project Amount:\$223,070

Enhance and increase connectivity of pollinator habitat on Midwestern private agricultural lands and public conservation lands by providing technical assistance to landowners, collecting and distributing seeds, and propagating seedlings. Project will collect 55 pounds of milkweed seeds, propagate 3,000 milkweed seedlings, host 14 events to engage 2,000 people and prescribe management actions to improve 2,000 acres of habitat.

Pollinator Habitat Restoration and Management at Smoky Valley Ranch (KS)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$99,997

Matching Funds:\$192,659

Total Project Amount:\$292,656

Restore 760 acres of cropland to prairie at Smoky Valley Ranch in Kansas using a diverse seed mix that will benefit monarch butterflies and other native pollinators. Project will improve 5,200 acres through prescribed fire, conservation grazing, and enhanced seed dispersal to increase the abundance of native wildflower species.

Iowa Butterfly Flyways: Restoring and Enhancing Pollinator Habitat

Grantee: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Grant Amount:\$100,000

Matching Funds:\$225,000

Total Project Amount:\$325,000

Restore and improve pollinator habitat on public and private lands throughout Iowa by planting diverse seed mixes to support monarch butterflies, rusty patched bumble bees, and other pollinators. Project will restore 1,000 acres on public lands, improve 2,000 acres on numerous public and private sites, collect 50 pounds of seed and propagate 5,000 seedlings.



Monarch butterfly

Improving Pollinator Habitat for Rusty Patched Bumble Bee and Other Pollinators (MN)

Grantee: Great River Greening

Grant Amount:\$85,000

Matching Funds:\$535,000

Total Project Amount:\$620,000

Improve habitat for monarch butterflies, rusty patched bumble bees and other pollinators along the Mississippi River Corridor near the Twin Cities metropolitan area in Minnesota by collecting and planting native seeds, controlling invasive species, and conducting prescribed burns. Project will improve 700 acres, collect 8 pounds of milkweed seed and engage 200 people.

Increasing Pollinator Habitat Availability in Prairies and Grasslands (WI)

Grantee: Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin
 Grant Amount:\$100,000
 Matching Funds:\$178,629
 Total Project Amount:\$278,629
 Restore and improve habitat for the monarch butterfly, regal fritillary, rusty patched bumble bee, and other at-risk pollinator species across a network of public and private lands in southwest Wisconsin by collecting and planting native seeds, clearing brush, controlling invasive species, conducting prescribed burns and monitoring pollinators. Project will restore 267 acres and improve 1,570 acres at 12 public sites and host 44 events reaching 340 people.

Expanding Pollinator Habitat for Monarch Butterflies and Pollinators at Letterkenny Army Depot (PA)

Grantee: National Wild Turkey Federation, Inc.
 Grant Amount:\$99,999
 Matching Funds:\$670,118
 Total Project Amount:\$770,118
 Increase the quantity and quality of habitat for frosted elfin, regal fritillary, and other pollinators at Letterkenny Army Depot in Pennsylvania through mechanical forestry cutting, prescribed burning, herbicide application, disking and planting diverse seed mixes. Project will restore 201 acres from forest to grassland and enhance 1,632 acres.

Improving Habitat for Karner Blue Butterfly, Rusty Patched Bumble Bee, and Other Pollinators (WI)

Grantee: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
 Grant Amount:\$99,996
 Matching Funds:\$252,584
 Total Project Amount:\$352,580
 Restore or enhance barrens, savannas and grasslands in Wisconsin for Karner blue butterflies, Poweshiek skipperling, and rusty patched bumble bees through seed collections, interseeding, prescribed burning, invasive species control, and brush control. Project will restore 50 acres and improve 1,100 acres on public lands, collect 100 pounds of milkweed seed, conduct 25 workshops, reach 250 people, and create the Pollinator Preservation Initiative for seed collecting.

Enhancing Monarch Butterfly Habitat on Rights-of-Way and Public Lands (AR)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
 Grant Amount:\$99,999
 Matching Funds:\$143,500
 Total Project Amount:\$243,499
 Restore and enhance pollinator habitat on rights-of-way, lands owned by The Nature Conservancy, and Logan Cave National Wildlife Refuge in western Arkansas through prescribed burning, invasive species control, and planting native species with an emphasis on milkweeds and nectar-producing forbs to support monarch butterflies. Project will restore 50 acres and improve 2,200 acres.



Monarch caterpillar

Restoring and Improving Rights-of-Way for Pollinators (PA)

Grantee: Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania
 Grant Amount:\$99,280
 Matching Funds:\$133,133
 Total Project Amount:\$232,413
 Restore and improve over 150 acres of rights-of-ways in Pennsylvania to provide habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators by implementing invasive species control, planting native species, and monitoring bumble bees. Project will restore 95 acres, improve 56 acres, and propagate 4,400 milkweed seedlings.