



NFWF

Delaware Watershed Conservation 2018 Grant Slate

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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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Horseshoe crabs

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) recently announced the 2018 round of funding for the Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund. Twenty-five new conservation and restoration grants totaling \$4.1 million were awarded, leveraging \$7.5 million in match from the grantees and generating a total conservation impact of \$11.6 million.

The Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund aims to conserve and restore natural areas, corridors, and waterways on public and private lands to support native migratory and resident wildlife and fish, and native plants; and to contribute to the social health and economic vitality of the communities in the Delaware River watershed.

The program was launched in 2018 as a first step toward bringing together various stakeholders invested in restoration and conservation efforts throughout the Delaware River Watershed to address different strategic program areas and cross-program activities, build networks, and improve efficiency and focus on a basin-wide scale.

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Bog turtle

Improving Stormwater Management for Riverfront Restoration in Phillipsburg, New Jersey

Grantee: Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissioners

Grant Award:..... \$153,019

Matching Funds: \$182,315

Total Amount:..... \$335,334

Plan and install green stormwater infrastructure to improve stormwater management and fish and wildlife habitat in Phillipsburg, New Jersey. Project will implement three green infrastructure projects to build on the current work to support the development of a riverfront restoration plan and expand community education on clean water, flooding and related environmental issues.

Enhancing Aquatic Connectivity and Flood Resilience at Road-Stream Crossings (NJ, PA)

Grantee: Trout Unlimited

Grant Award:..... \$55,021

Matching Funds: \$56,208

Total Amount:..... \$111,229

Complete an assessment of road-stream crossings within

priority eastern brook trout watersheds in the Delaware River basin of both Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Project will develop a prioritized road-stream crossing inventory to inform future coldwater habitat project selection, fill necessary knowledge gaps, and provide a baseline to monitor future projects to help improve eastern brook trout habitat connectivity and flood resilience throughout the Delaware River basin.

Brandywine River Shad Restoration Project (DE)

Grantee: University of Delaware

Grant Award:..... \$241,000

Matching Funds: \$250,000

Total Amount:..... \$491,000

Restore anadromous and domestic fish passage to 17.6 miles and 250 acres of freshwater spawning habitat from tidewater to the Piedmont in Delaware and Pennsylvania. Project will prioritize the removal 10 dams along the Brandywine River to restore fish passage for American shad, hickory shad, striped bass and herring species as part of the initiative to restore this freshwater habitat by 2020.

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Naturalizing Detention Basins to Enhance Habitat and Water Quality in Hamilton Township, New Jersey

Grantee: Rutgers University Foundation

Grant Award:..... \$111,432

Matching Funds: \$122,468

Total Amount:..... \$233,900

Improve the function of stormwater basins in Hamilton Township, New Jersey. Project will contribute to the community's green infrastructure goals to enhance wildlife habitat, improve groundwater recharge, and reduce pollutant loading in local waterways.

Stream Restoration at Jeffersonville Golf Club (PA)

Grantee: West Norriton Township

Grant Award:..... \$158,946

Matching Funds: \$189,630

Total Amount:..... \$348,576

Restore eroded streambanks along 1,100 linear feet of stream at the Jeffersonville Golf Course in West Norriton Township to prevent erosion, reduce sediment transport and restore fish and wildlife habitat. Project will reduce slopes along the riparian corridor by establishing defined floodplain, as well as install a bioretention feature along Indian Creek to detain flows and improve groundwater recharge of small storm events.

Reducing Microplastics in the Delaware Estuary (DE, NJ, PA)

Grantee: Delaware River Basin Commission

Grant Award:..... \$60,454

Matching Funds: \$60,454

Total Amount:..... \$120,908

Identify key sources of microplastics in the Delaware Estuary through monitoring and modelling efforts to ultimately execute targeted cleanup efforts on key source tributaries. Project will conduct studies to develop a more comprehensive understanding of microplastics in the estuary and then use the results of these efforts to organize the removal of large amounts of plastic products from the waters of the basin to benefit fish, wildlife and habitats.

Restoration, Research and Outreach in the Cherry Creek Watershed (PA)

Grantee: Friends of Cherry Valley

Grant Award:..... \$200,000

Matching Funds: \$1,426,345

Total Amount:..... \$1,626,345

Restore Cherry Creek at the former local golf course and enhance restoration efforts throughout the watershed. Project will improve habitat and recreational opportunities at various project locations to restore the Cherry Creek Watershed.

Returning American Eels for Ecological Restoration of the Schuylkill Watershed (PA)

Grantee: Delaware Riverkeeper Network

Grant Award:..... \$88,506

Matching Funds: \$94,074

Total Amount:..... \$182,580

Evaluate the ability of American eels to control invasive crayfish and contribute to restoring ecological structure of Pickering Creek in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Project will first document current crayfish and fish assemblages in the creek, and then transport eels to Pickering Creek and conduct quantitative surveys with continued monitoring efforts to assess the extent of change and the trajectory of restoration.

Restoring and Connecting Bog Turtle Habitat in the Upper Salem River Watershed (NJ)

Grantee: New Jersey Audubon Society

Grant Award:..... \$88,308

Matching Funds: \$90,000

Total Amount:..... \$178,309

Restore 50 acres of freshwater wetlands and uplands with extant bog turtle populations in the Upper Salem River Watershed. Project will reach out to at least 200 landowners and farmers encouraging enrollment in conservation programs to benefit bog turtles, freshwater wetlands and the watershed.

Stormwater Management and Trail Restoration in Wissahickon Valley Park (PA)

Grantee: Friends of the Wissahickon

Grant Award:..... \$125,000

Matching Funds: \$256,280

Total Amount:..... \$381,280

Restore trails and control stormwater runoff at three sites of degraded trail corridors and actively eroding gullies in Wissahickon Valley Park, Philadelphia. Project will reduce sedimentation of the Wissahickon Creek and improve trail conditions for 1.3 million annual park visitors.

Planning and Implementation of a Living Shoreline at Bartram's Garden (PA)

Grantee: Partnership for the Delaware Estuary

Grant Award:..... \$125,000

Matching Funds: \$125,000

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

Establish beds of freshwater mussels in an urban tidal living shoreline at Bartram's Garden in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Project will enhance local water quality and vegetation within the living shoreline, while providing erosion control services to conserve and retain connections between coastal habitats and ecosystems to support local species.



Eastern brook trout

remove fish passage impediments to ultimately restore sustainable cold-water fish and aquatic species populations.

Lopatcong Creek Restoration (NJ)

Grantee: Trout Unlimited
Grant Award:..... \$176,109
Matching Funds: \$190,529
Total Amount:..... \$366,638

Restore 2.4 miles of floodplain, riparian and habitat along Lopatcong Creek to address water quality degradation and a declining population of native eastern brook trout. Project will improve water quality, native eastern brook trout habitat, macroinvertebrate diversity, and recreational opportunities on protected public lands.

Implementing Green Stormwater Infrastructure at Drexel Gardens Park (PA)

Grantee: Pennsylvania Resources Council
Grant Award:..... \$202,340
Matching Funds: \$266,900
Total Amount:..... \$469,240

Install five green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) projects in a public park located in Upper Darby Township. Project will remove 12,578 pounds per year of sediment, reduce stormwater by 2,436,920 gallons annually, and lessen nutrient pollution in local streams to benefit fish, wildlife and people.

Baycove Shorebird and Horseshoe Crab Habitat Restoration (NJ)

Grantee: American Littoral Society
Grant Award:..... \$250,000
Matching Funds: \$247,312
Total Amount:..... \$469,312

Install an overwash berm and construct an oyster reef at Baycove beach. Project will prevent further shoreline degradation and restore habitat for shorebirds and horseshoe crabs.

Aquatic Habitat Restoration at Aquetong Spring Park (PA)

Grantee: Solebury Township
Grant Award:..... \$250,000
Matching Funds: \$995,000
Total Amount:..... \$1,245,000

Restore and protect Aquetong Spring Park to improve water quality and aquatic habitat of Aquetong Creek. Project will implement a variety of conservation measures and best management practices to treat off-site stormwater, protect fragile soils with riparian buffers, reforest diseased canopy areas, install trout habitat structures, and monitor water quality, fish populations, and invasive species.

Establishing Callicoon Riverside Park (NY)

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land
Grant Award:..... \$187,526
Matching Funds: \$350,000
Total Amount:..... \$537,526

Protect and provide public access to 47.5 acres of forest and fields, including 4,000 feet of riverfront, along the Upper Delaware River in the hamlet of Callicoon, New York. Project will transform a dilapidated RV park into a public park to protect important fish and wildlife habitat, enable floodplain and riverfront restoration, guarantee access, and create new recreational opportunities on the land and along the river.

Fish Passage Improvements and Stream Restoration in Bushkill Creek (PA)

Grantee: Wildlands Conservancy
Grant Award:..... \$183,001
Matching Funds: \$755,600
Total Amount:..... \$938,601

Restore Bushkill Creek watershed through the removal of five dams located in the watershed and near the confluence of the Delaware River. Project will remove these dams to improve the water quality and health of the stream, and



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Enhancing Forest Habitat in the Northern Delaware River Watershed (PA, NJ)

Grantee: Wildlife Management Institute
 Grant Award:..... \$249,917
 Matching Funds: \$200,000
Total Amount:..... \$449,917

Implement forest management projects on protected private lands in the northern Delaware River watershed. Project will create healthy diverse forests which provide high quality forested habitat in multiple age classes, clean water and public recreation.

Unassessed Waters Initiative (PA) - IV - Delaware River Watershed

Grantee: Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
 Grant Award:..... \$50,000
 Matching Funds: \$53,977
Total Amount:..... \$103,977

Coordinate data collection and data management for the Unassessed Waters Initiative in the Pennsylvania area of the Delaware River watershed. Project will provide data on previously unassessed streams in order to ensure proper stream classification that is vital to successfully protecting Pennsylvania's water resources.

Expanding Stream Restoration in the Red Clay Creek (PA)

Grantee: Brandywine Red Clay Alliance
 Grant Award:..... \$249,556
 Matching Funds: \$313,000
Total Amount:..... \$562,556

Restore 4,400 feet of the Upper East Branch Red Clay Creek and an unnamed tributary using stream-bank stabilization with native grasses and wildflowers, in-stream structures, stream bank grading, and the addition of trees and shrubs to the riparian areas where needed. Project will reduce sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorous to the stream and improve water quality toward the goal of achieving unimpaired status for fish, wildlife and people.

Improving Wildlife Habitat and Public Access in the Columbia Wildlife Management Area (NJ)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
 Grant Award:..... \$249,824
 Matching Funds: \$297,165
Total Amount:..... \$546,989

Restore the Paulins Kill channel and native floodplain forest after the removal of the Columbia Dam and a downstream remnant dam located in the Columbia Wildlife Management Area. Project will protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat while providing compatible recreational and educational opportunities.

Native Ecosystem Restoration through Strategic Partnerships in Northern New Jersey

Grantee: New Jersey Audubon Society
 Grant Award:..... \$99,072
 Matching Funds: \$103,201
Total Amount:..... \$202,273

Restore a former wetland area that was historically ditched for agricultural purposes to its natural native ecosystem functionality. Project will be a model site for the community conservation education.

Wissahickon Headwaters Riparian Restoration (PA)

Grantee: Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
 Grant Award:..... \$249,970
 Matching Funds: \$369,600
Total Amount:..... \$619,570

Restore 1,775 linear feet of stream and adjacent floodplain in the Wissahickon Headwaters. Project will provide a stable stream dimension, pattern, and profile, reduce sedimentation, restore the connection between the stream and the floodplain, and improve hydraulic capacity of the floodplain.

Implementing Integrated Restoration Objectives in the Upper Delaware River (NY)

Grantee: Friends of the Upper Delaware River
 Grant Award:..... \$249,999
 Matching Funds: \$316,097
Total Amount:..... \$566,096

Implement five stream restoration and enhancement projects, including dam removal, culvert replacement, installing habitat improvement structures, floodplain reconnection, and improvement of a stream side public park. Project will improve water quality and trout spawning habitat, expand fish passage, enhance flood mitigation, and create new public access points and recreational opportunities for hiking and birdwatching

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge Tidal Marsh Restoration (PA)

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited
 Grant Award:..... \$86,000
 Matching Funds: \$234,787
Total Amount:..... \$320,787

Restore tidal connectivity to a 180-acre impoundment at John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge. Project will increase hydrologic connectivity, water quality, flood control and habitat structure, complexity and quality within the impoundment and adjacent Darby Creek.