



# NFWF

## Fisheries Innovation Fund 2017 Grant Slate

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### FUNDING PARTNERS



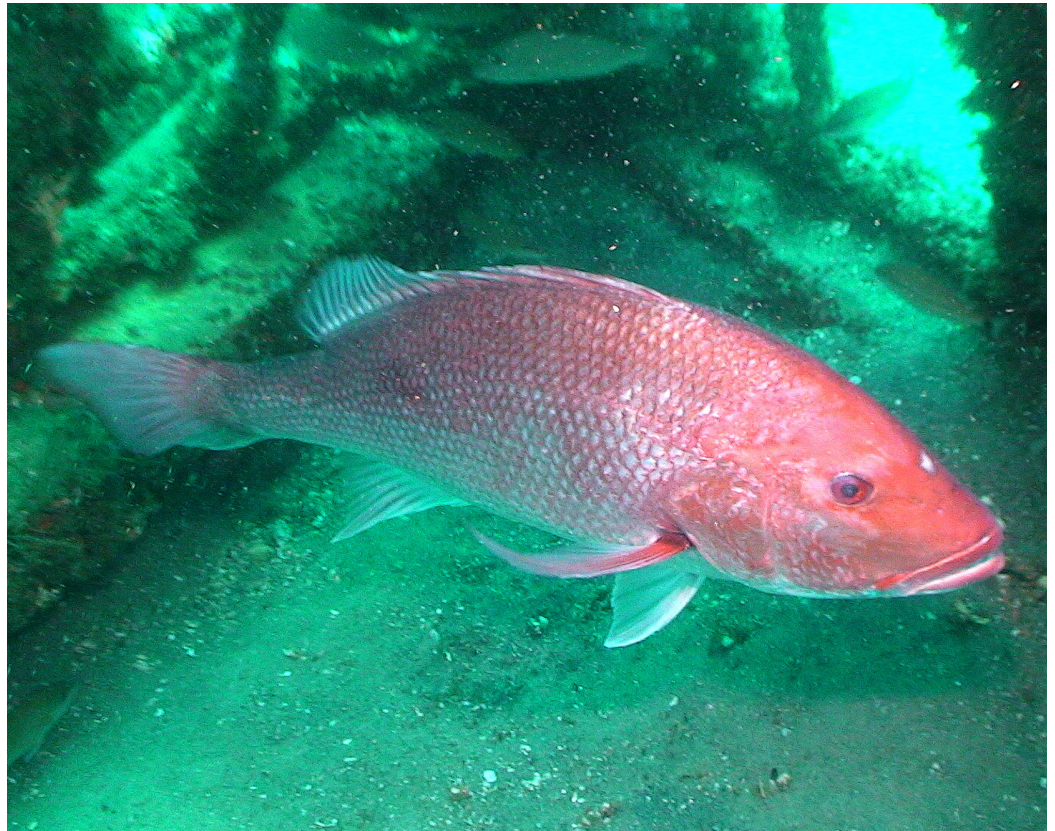
**WALTON FAMILY  
FOUNDATION**

### 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](http://www.nfwf.org)

### NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Red snapper | Credit: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

### OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Walton Family Foundation, announced a seventh-year round of funding for Fisheries Innovation Fund projects, awarding a total of \$766,871 in grants. The seven awards announced generated \$840,887 in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of more than \$1.6 million.

The Fisheries Innovation Fund was established in 2010 to increase revenue and provide additional access and fishing opportunities for both commercial and recreational fishermen in the United States. This year's grants invest in projects that build the capacity of fishing businesses and communities to improve sustainability through maintained access to fisheries resources and/or expanded market and financing opportunities. In addition, investments aim to promote full utilization of annual catch limits, minimize bycatch of overfished stocks, and support improvements to recreational fisheries conservation and management.

The following seven projects will promote healthy fish stocks by working with fishermen to reduce bycatch, organize fishing markets to provide stability to communities, and improve monitoring and assessment strategies in the recreational sector.

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### Supporting the Next Generation of Alaskan Fishermen through the Deckhand Apprentice Program (AK)

Grantee: Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$69,996  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$72,500  
**Total Amount: ..... \$142,496**

Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association will coordinate and expand a state-wide apprentice program to promote resource stewardship, community viability, and opportunity in Alaska's commercial fisheries. The project will develop curriculum and resources to guide the program expansion, include additional vessels and fisheries, and promote entry level job opportunities.

### Pilot a Sustainable Seafood Hub to Revitalize the Fishing Economy in Northern California (CA)

Grantee: Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$101,826  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$260,000  
**Total Amount: ..... \$361,826**

Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust will rebuild local and regional markets for sustainable and traceable seafood, including West Coast groundfish. The project will improve the value of landings for fishermen, expand public access to local, sustainable seafood and revitalize the fishing industry in Monterey Bay ports.

### Developing the Massachusetts Shellfish Initiative (MA)

Grantee: Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$100,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$133,308  
**Total Amount: ..... \$233,308**

Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance will develop the Massachusetts Shellfish Initiative plan to build capacity for shellfish stakeholders and maximize the economic and environmental benefits of shellfish resources including oysters, quahogs, surf clams, mussels, razor clams, steamers and bay scallops. The project will include over 500 stakeholders who will develop goals and guidance for balancing the growing and competing demands for shellfish resources.

### Bycatch Avoidance Network Expansion for Georges Bank Haddock and Northern Red Hake (RI, NY, NJ, MA)

Grantee: Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Suffolk County  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$60,939  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$35,765  
**Total Amount: ..... \$96,704**

Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Suffolk County will expand the Bycatch Avoidance Network to identify and report real-time bycatch of butterfish, river herring, windowpane, yellowtail flounder, haddock and

northern red hake. The project will reduce bycatch in Southern New England fisheries by providing active vessels with real-time spacial and temporal bycatch data.

### Evaluating Recreational Fishing Management Strategies for Red Snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) (FL)

Grantee: University of Florida  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$275,121  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$157,914  
**Total Amount: ..... \$433,035**

University of Florida will assess the recreational management strategies of red snapper by using simulation and assessment modeling, stakeholder surveys and stakeholder workshops. The project will provide a framework for angling groups to explore management options to understand the impacts on available catch and anglers' access to the red snapper fishery.

### Creating Tools to Reduce Bycatch and Maximize Harvest in the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery (FL)

Grantee: Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$59,107  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$90,500  
**Total Amount: ..... \$149,607**

Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance will develop an electronic bycatch hotspot avoidance program to improve the reduction of red snapper bycatch in the eastern Gulf of Mexico commercial grouper fishery to increase the impacts of the Gulf of Mexico Quota Bank. The project will develop a bycatch hotspot reporting tool, engage up to 30 qualifying commercial grouper fishermen to participate in the program, reduce up to 60,000 pounds of red snapper bycatch, and create up to 24 hotspot maps.

### Next Generation of Permit Banking and Fishery Allocation Trusts (ME, MA, TX, FL, LA, MS)

Grantee: Maine Coast Fishermen's Association  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$99,882  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$90,900  
**Total Amount: ..... \$190,782**

Maine Coast Fishermen's Association will develop a new approach to fishery trusts that will be used as a model for multiple fisheries - including but not limited to the New England roundfish and the Gulf of Mexico reef fishery - by assessing current permit bank models, exploring small business growth, and exploring community buy-in and stewardship. The project will result in up to five new trust and permit bank business structures, and up to five programmatic models that will respond to the changing needs of the fishing community.