Northern California Forests and Watersheds

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FUNDING PARTNERS

- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Bureau of Land Management

Lassen National Forest

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), announced a 2020-year round of funding for Northern California Forests and Watersheds program to continue the advancement of fire recovery efforts for watersheds in northern California affected by the Storrie Fire and strengthen watershed infrastructure resilience.

The Northern California Forests and Watershed program's 2020 slate awarded more than $1.7 million across five projects including over $1.4 million funded in partnership with USFS, and over $240,000 funded in partnership with Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The 2000 Storrie Fire on Lassen National Forest burned 27,000 acres in the North Fork Feather River and Butte Creek watersheds, along with 25,000 acres on Plumas National Forest. About 52,000 acres of national forest lands were impacted by the Storrie Fire and left a significant impact on the landscapes, watersheds and ecosystems of the region.

The program funds projects that address five key watershed and forest restoration strategies: 1) Watershed restoration and management, 2) Species management, 3) Forest and upland restoration and management, 4) Management of recreational and non-natural features, and 5) Watershed infrastructure improvements and management.

Based on the proposals received, grants in 2020 were awarded to five projects across two key strategies: 1) Watershed restoration and management, and 3) Forest and upload restoration and management.

(continued)

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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WATERSHED RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT

The following projects seek to improve watershed quality and habitat. Projects improve hydrologic connectivity and aquatic organism passage; remove invasive species threatening aquatic habitat or sensitive species; restore and enhance instream flow; or create, maintain or improve existing watersheds, meadows, fens, riparian corridors and instream habitats.

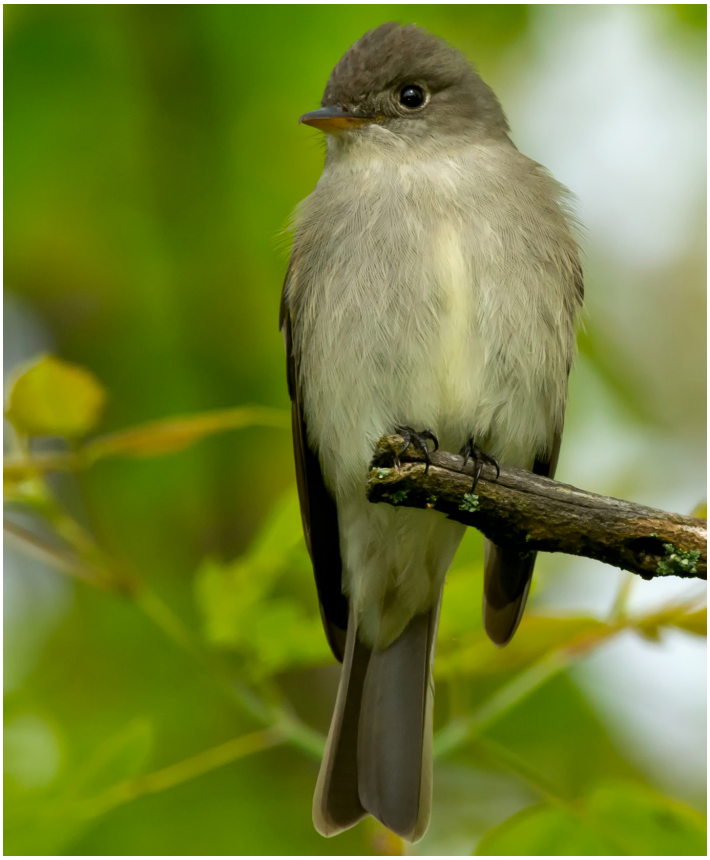
Restoration Implementation, Monitoring, and Bat Surveys in Colby Creek (CA)
Grantee: Point Blue Conservation Science
Grant Amount:.....$705,563
Matching Funds:.....$183,565
Total Project:.....$889,128
Restore priority meadows within the Storrie Fire nexus watersheds, collect pre- and post-restoration monitoring data to evaluate effectiveness, and conduct surveys on sensitive bat species. Project will restore hydrology over 175 acres, improve over 2.5 miles of stream, and establish a baseline condition and sampling strategy to evaluate ecological effectiveness monitoring of meadows restoration activities.

Meadow Restoration in Faith Valley and Grouse Meadow in the Desert Terminal Lakes Watersheds (CA)
Grantee: American Rivers
Grant Amount:.....$242,486
Matching Funds:.....$320,000
Total Project:.....$562,486
Restore hydrological processes in Faith Valley, a priority meadow within the Carson Basin Watershed, and initiate planning for wet meadow restoration in Grouse Meadow, a high-priority site within the Walker Basin Watershed. Project will improve habitat for the willow flycatcher by restoring hydrology across 120 acres of meadows and conduct planning and design for 40 acres of meadows within suitable habitat for bi-state sage grouse.

FOREST AND UPLAND RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT

The following projects seek to locate and/or remove invasive species; restore age class structure and reduce fuels to minimize risks from unnatural wildlife; and re-vegetate native plants in fire affected watersheds.

Development of Environmental Compliance in Preparation for Invasive Vegetation Removal (CA)
Grantee: California Invasive Plant Council
Grant Amount:.....$77,574
Matching Funds:.....$55,000
Total Project:.....$132,574
Develop environmental compliance that targets a variety of invasive vegetation found within priority watersheds within the Lassen National Forest and incorporates an adaptive management strategy. Project will reduce Canada thistle infestation by 30 percent following the completion of an Environmental Assessment.



Willow flycatcher

Development of Environmental Compliance for Fuels Reduction Preparation in Lower Yellow Creek (CA)
Grantee: The Student Conservation Association
Grant Amount:.....$287,772
Matching Funds:.....$97,376
Total Project:.....$385,148
Prepare an Environmental Assessment for a project area in the high priority Lower Yellow Creek Watershed in the Lassen National Forest, followed by fuels reduction preparation. Project will provide an Environmental Assessment for the project area and will subsequently perform fuels management using hand treatments on 61 acres and forest thinning using hand treatments on 114 acres.

Fuels Reduction Preparation, Monitoring, and NEPA for Green Island Lake Research Natural Area (CA)
Grantee: Sierra Institute for Community and Environment
Grant Amount:.....$399,753
Matching Funds:.....$237,114
Total Project:.....$636,867
Complete an environmental compliance document to analyze the ecological effects of prescribed fire as well as develop a prescribed burn monitoring plan in the Green Island Lake Research Natural Area. Project will complete restoration planning and design across 1,185 acres and will complete two studies to inform management decisions.