



Fishing for Energy

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FUNDING PARTNERS

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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 \$6.8 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Lobster traps

OVERVIEW

The Fishing for Energy program seeks to provide a cost-free solution to fishermen to dispose of old, derelict, or unusable fishing gear, and to reduce the amount of derelict fishing gear in and around coastal waterways. By assisting in prevention and removal of derelict fishing gear, Fishing for Energy restores the quality of marine and coastal habitats and supports the communities and industries that rely on these resources.

This year, Fishing for Energy and program partners announced \$412,307 in funding for four long-term gear collection sites, one gear collection event bin, and three projects to develop collection capacity and logistics for future long-term collection sites. The eight selected awards generated \$246,516 in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$658,823. Awardees will engage with local fishers, intercept and dispose of potential marine debris, identify recycling solutions for end-of-life gear, and work to protect U.S. coastal waters from the negative impacts of debris buildup and ghost fishing.

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Aerial view of the Florida Keys

LONG TERM COLLECTION SITES

Recycling of Derelict Fishing Gear in Tilamook Bay (OR)

Grantee: Port of Garibaldi
 Grant Amount:\$11,184
 Maintain an existing bin for derelict fishing gear at the Port of Garibaldi. Project will intercept and haul about 25 tons of fishing gear for recycling or conversion to energy.

Removing Derelict Crab Pots to Reduce Wildlife Entanglements in Coastal Marsh Waters (NJ)

Grantee: Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey
 Grant Amount:\$14,960
 Remove up to 5 tons of marine debris from Barnegat Bay, New Jersey. Project will provide a bin to collect and remove derelict crab pots that pose a threat to coastal marsh species.

Collection of Fishing Gear in Gloucester, Massachusetts

Grantee: City Of Gloucester Harbormaster
 Grant Amount:\$10,000
 Collect and dispose of derelict fishing gear from the City of Gloucester, Massachusetts. Project will recycle or convert to energy 50 tons of fishing gear, including lobster pots, ropes, and buoys.

Collection of Derelict Fishing Gear Along the Mississippi Gulf Coast

Grantee: Mississippi Commercial Fisheries United
 Grant Amount:\$15,137
 Maintain a derelict gear collection utility trailer to support the continued collection, hauling, and recycling of derelict blue crab traps for Mississippi’s inshore shrimpers. Project will divert and recycle three tons of fishing gear from the Mississippi sound.

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Fishing boats in Massachusetts

EVENT COLLECTION BINS

Derelict Fishing Gear Collection in Clinton, Connecticut

Grantee: The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk
 Grant Amount: \$7,606
 Install a publicly accessible derelict fishing gear collection bin in Clinton, Connecticut to gather abandoned lobster traps posing ecological and navigational hazards in Long Island Sound. Project will gather an estimated 219 lobster traps in the collection bin to be recycled, increasing the resilience of fisheries in Long Island Sound and reducing hazards for commercial and recreational vessels.

CAPACITY AND LOGISTICS DEVELOPMENT SITES

Developing Logistics for Fishing Net Collection and Recycling in California

Grantee: Wildcoast
 Grant Amount: \$146,218
 Develop logistics to collect fishing net waste from ports across California. Project will establish derelict fishing gear collection at five ports, recycling 60 tons of unused fishing nets.

Developing Logistics for Fishing Net Collection in Portland, Maine

Grantee: Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation
 Grant Amount: \$136,610
 Develop logistics for the collection of fishing nets from local New England fishermen who are looking for ways to properly dispose of their end-of-life nets. Project will develop locations and proper disposal options to recycle or convert to energy 280 tons of fishing gear, reducing unwanted bycatch of many marine species.

Developing Capacity to Recycle Fishing Debris in The Florida Keys

Grantee: National Marine Sanctuary Foundation
 Grant Amount: \$70,591
 Identify recycling solutions for gear approaching end-of-life. Project will use targeted engagement with local stakeholders to develop capacity and logistics for recycling of end-of-life and derelict fishing gear throughout the Florida Keys, a pervasive issue that affects the health and well-being of delicate ecosystems and habitats, including coral reefs.