



# Sustain Our Great Lakes

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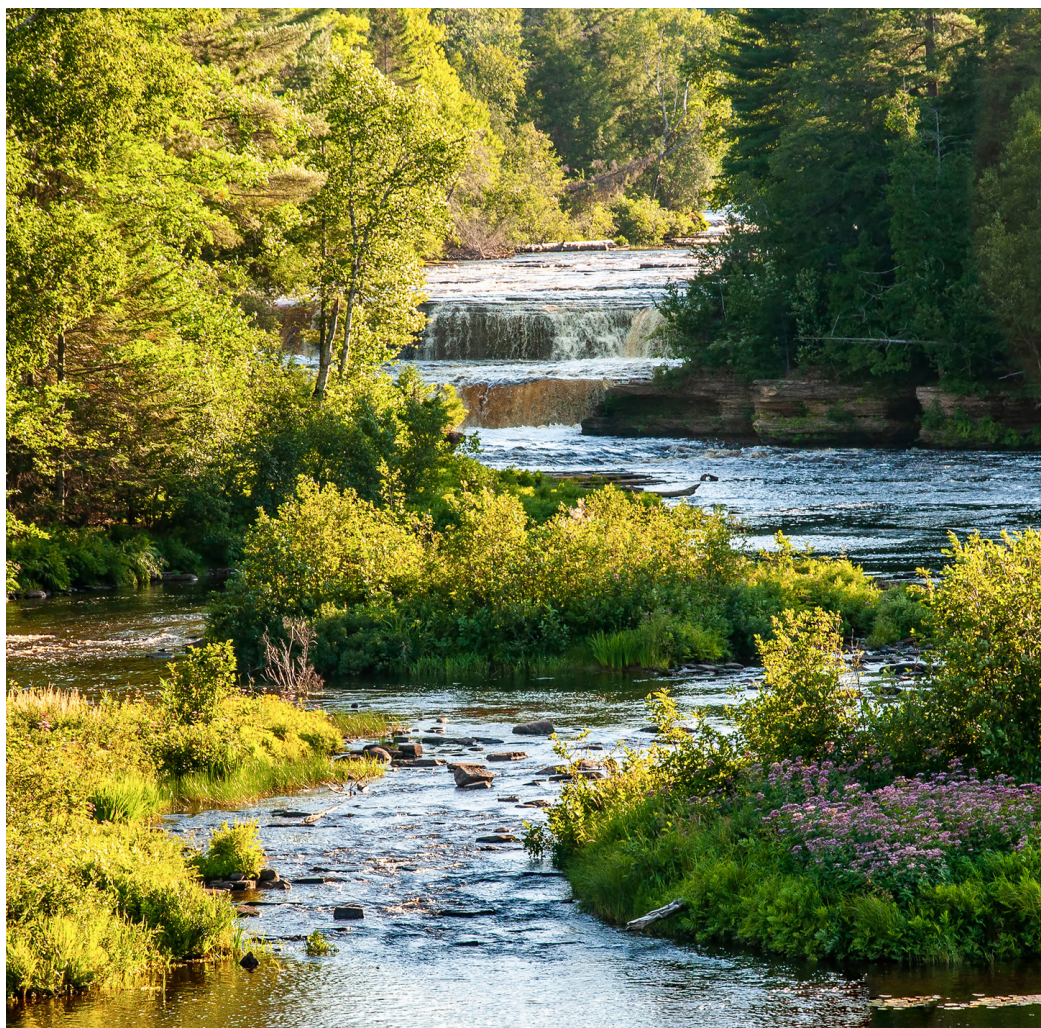
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## PARTNERS

- Careus Foundation
- Cleveland-Cliffs
- General Mills
- Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation 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 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$8.1 billion. NFWF is an equal opportunity provider.



Stream in Michigan

## OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and Careus Foundation, Cleveland-Cliffs, General Mills, Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service announced the 2023 round of funding for Sustain Our Great Lakes projects. Forty-three new or continuing habitat restoration grants totaling \$17.6 million were awarded. The 43 awards announced generated \$25 million in matching contributions from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$42.6 million.

Sustain Our Great Lakes is a public-private partnership designed to sustain, restore and protect fish, wildlife and habitat in the basin by leveraging funding, building conservation capacity, and focusing partners and resources toward key ecological issues. The program achieves this mission, in part, by awarding grants for on-the-ground habitat restoration and enhancement.

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Northern pike

**STREAM AND RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION TO BENEFIT SPECIES**

The following projects seek to improve the quality and connectivity of stream and riparian habitat by restoring aquatic connectivity, naturalizing stream channel configuration, and improving in-stream and riparian habitat. Projects will address barriers to aquatic connectivity, reduce nutrient and sediment runoff, and improve habitat to benefit priority native fish species, such as brook trout and lake sturgeon.

**Building Resiliency in West Branch of Onondaga County to Benefit Brook Trout Habitat (NY)**

Grantee: Onondaga Environmental Institute  
 Grant Amount:..... \$408,700  
 Matching Funds:..... \$213,100  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$621,800  
 Restore 2.4 miles of instream habitat and improve 3.6 miles of fish passage at three contiguous locations in the West Branch of Onondaga Creek to benefit brook trout. Project will repair and replace failing infrastructure and habitat impacted by erosion and build off of previous brook trout restoration work.

**Enhancing Floodplain Connectivity at Mitchell Creek Watershed (MI)**

Grantee: Conservation Resource Alliance  
 Grant Amount:..... \$250,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$410,000  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$660,000  
 Create 275 linear feet of new brook trout habitat, improve over 4,400 linear feet of stream, open 6.5 miles of habitat, and restore 77 acres of riparian wetland. Project will restore floodplain connectivity and improve geomorphic function via channel re-meanderings to restore riparian wetland and vegetation in a small coastal tributary in Lake Michigan to benefit brook trout.

**Restoring Au Sable River Aquatic Organism Passage at the Grayling Fish Hatchery (MI)**

Grantee: Michigan Trout Unlimited  
 Grant Amount:..... \$200,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$600,000  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$800,000  
 Open over 20 upstream miles and 50 downstream miles of high quality, coldwater stream by improving five fish passage barriers and installing 14 instream habitat structures. Project will restore aquatic organism passage to the East Branch of the Au Sable at the Grayling Fish Hatchery while improving in-stream habitat and stream function to benefit brook trout and other species.

**Restoring and Reconnecting Coldwater Habitat in Northwest Michigan Priority Watersheds**

Grantee: Trout Unlimited  
 Grant Amount:..... \$591,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$301,000  
 Total Project Amount ..... : \$892,100  
 Reconnect over 30 miles of high-quality cold-water habitat, implement five road stream culvert upgrades and three stream habitat restoration and enhancement projects. Project will improve aquatic organism passage and habitat in northwestern Michigan coldwater streams to benefit brook trout, restore natural ecosystem processes, and flood resiliency.

**Restoring Fish Passage in the West Branch White River (WI)**

Grantee: Fox Valley Trout Unlimited  
 Grant Amount:..... \$398,475  
 Matching Funds:..... \$2,843,600  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$3,242,000  
 Restore 2.9 miles of brook trout habitat and 7 acres of wetland and remove invasive species from 13 acres. Project will continue efforts to reconnect and restore brook trout habitat in West Branch of the White River and central Wisconsin’s Lake Michigan watershed.

### STREAM AND RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

The following projects seek to protect and enhance high quality and previously restored stream, wetland, or coastal habitat. Projects will reduce input of sediment and nutrients, increase protection and reduce degradation of restored or high-quality habitat to provide benefits to priority species such as freshwater mussels, northern pike, and migratory birds.

#### Improving Water Quality Through Ecological Restoration in the Pike River (WI)

Grantee: Kenosha County Division of Parks

Grant Amount: ..... \$300,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$2,100,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$2,400,000

Rehabilitate a section of the main branch of the Pike River within Petrifying Springs Park by restoring 3,280 feet of streambank, 5.2 acres of riparian habitat and 12,040 square feet of in-stream habitat. Project will improve fish and pollinator habitat, improve water quality, mitigate flooding, and create an environmental corridor within a rapidly developing area of the Pike River watershed.

#### Reducing Sediment in Owasco Lake (NY)

Grantee: Owasco Lake Watershed Management

Grant Amount: ..... \$457,800  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$109,900  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$567,700

Reduce sedimentation in Owasco Lake, restore instream habitat by installing 20 structures and improve 2,000 linear feet to stabilize stream bank. Project will address streambank erosion in two main tributaries that encompass 60 percent of the acreage of Owasco lake's watershed and are responsible for approximately 40 percent of phosphorus loading into the lake.

#### Restoring Natural Stream Flow in Bear Creek (MI)

Grantee: Muskegon Conservation District

Grant Amount: ..... \$220,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$30,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$250,000

Remediate a road stream crossing and improve 200 linear feet streambank habitat in Bear Creek. Project will improve habitat and removal of this culvert and subsequent sedimentation removal is the first step to restoring Bear Creek to a cold water fishery status.

#### Restoring Ox Creek Stream and Wetland Habitat at Hall Park (MI)

Grantee: Benton Harbor City

Grant Amount: ..... \$600,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$3,950,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$4,550,000

Improve water quality and enhance habitat for priority species by reducing runoff from neighboring uses. Project will restore 2,640 feet of stream and 10 acres of floodplain/wetland in Ox Creek.

#### Restoring Riparian and Wetland Habitats in Lake Ontario Watershed (NY)

Grantee: The Research Foundation for the State University of New York

Grant Amount: ..... 266,100  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$267,900  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$534,000

Restore 50 acres of riparian-wetland habitat that have been decimated by the invasive ash borer in Genesee and Monroe counties, New York. Project will plant native trees, increase native wetland vegetation, improve water quality through reduction of nitrogen phosphorus, and improve water quality and stream temperature for brook trout and pink heelsplitter mussel habitat.

#### Restoring Stream Habitat Function in Silver Creek (WI)

Grantee: City of Manitowoc

Grant Amount: ..... \$245,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$505,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$750,000

Restore over 1,800 linear feet of native vegetated riparian buffer to intercept and infiltrate stormwater, reduce erosion, stabilize banks and improve overall water quality. Project will reduce sedimentation and enhance habitat of surrounding area and instream structures to benefit migratory birds, white suckers, numerous trout and salmon species and pollinators.

#### Restoring Streambank to Improve Water Quality in the Macatawa River (MI)

Grantee: Outdoor Discovery Center Macatawa Greenway

Grant Amount: ..... \$300,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$150,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$450,000

Restore 900 feet of streambank along the Macatawa River, a tributary to Lake Macatawa and Lake Michigan. Project will reduce phosphorus and sediment loading in Lake Macatawa and improve water quality for the northern pike section of the river.



Green heron

(continued)

## COASTAL HABITAT RESTORATION

The following projects seek to improve the quality and connectivity of Great Lakes coastal habitat by restoring aquatic connectivity, improving wetland habitat, and controlling invasive species. Projects will restore critical habitat to benefit species of conservation concern including migratory shorebirds, waterfowl, and marsh-spawning fish such as northern pike.

### Restoring Habitat for Birds in the St. Louis River Estuary, Duluth, Minnesota

Grantee: Minnesota Land Trust

Grant Amount:..... \$512,700

Matching Funds:..... \$170,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$682,700

Reestablish 23 acres of former agricultural cropland into floodplain and wetlands, create over 3,000 linear feet of functional stream with connected floodplain, and establish 10 acres of upland habitat. Project will create more than 24 million gallons of stormwater storage, treat 3.85 million gallons annually, and drain over 1,000 upstream acres of suburban and agricultural runoff before entering East Branch Black River and eventually Lake Erie.

## GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

The following projects seek to reduce urban stormwater runoff and flooding to improve Great Lakes nearshore health and water quality. Projects will increase stormwater storage capacity and infiltration by installing green stormwater infrastructure, enhancing native habitat, restoring urban forests and improving public green space.



Yellow waterlily

### Building Shoreline Resilience Through Green Infrastructure (WI)

Grantee: City of Two Rivers

Grant Amount:..... \$280,000

Matching Funds:..... \$99,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$379,000

Design and implement a bioswale, install one acre of prairie and six acres of beach and dune stabilization, restore 3 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, and filter and absorb 200,000 gallons of stormwater runoff annually. Project will engage community through outreach and events, adopt innovative nature-based approaches to shoreline erosion, restore biodiversity, and improve water quality.

### Creating Habitat to Manage Regional Suburban and Agricultural Stormwater Runoff (OH)

Grantee: Lorain County Board of Commissioners

Grant Amount:..... \$1,00,000

Matching Funds:..... \$3,586,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$4,586,000

Reestablish 23 acres of former agricultural cropland into floodplain and wetlands, create over 3,000 linear feet of functional stream with connected floodplain, and establish 10 acres of upland habitat. Project will create more than 24 million gallons of stormwater storage, treat 3.85 million gallons annually, and drain over 1,000 upstream acres of suburban and agricultural runoff before entering East Branch Black River and eventually Lake Erie.

### Green Infrastructure and Urban Reforestation at Ralph C. Wilson Junior Centennial Park (NY)

Grantee: City of Buffalo

Grant Amount:..... \$1,047,500

Matching Funds:..... \$10,047,500

Total Project Amount:..... \$11,095,000

Install 660 trees and shrubs at Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Centennial Park located in Buffalo, New York. Project will capture stormwater, reducing neighborhood flooding while providing much needed services to underserved residents by closing a nature gap in the City of Buffalo.

### Implementing Green Infrastructure to Reduce Runoff in a Polluted Urban Watershed (NY)

Grantee: Onondaga Environmental Institute

Grant Amount:..... \$466,700

Matching Funds:..... \$297,700

Total Project Amount:..... \$764,400

Plant 500 native trees and shrubs across 5.5 acres, revegetate one mile of streambank, create 7 acres of new and expanded wetland habitat, improve wetland hydrology, increase stormwater retention and stream length, and reduce peak storm flows at two retention sites. Project will implement green infrastructure in the Ley Creek watershed in Onondaga County to build resiliency, mitigate residential flooding, restore hydrology, improve water quality and restore habitat for the northern pike.

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### Implementing Green Projects to Connect Urban and Upstream Communities (MI)

Grantee: Calvin College

Grant Amount: .....\$674,800  
 Matching Funds: .....\$305,800  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$980,600

Implement green stormwater infrastructure projects and restore native habitats within Plaster Creek watershed to improve urban stream habitat. Project will reduce total maximum daily load of pollutants, capture 86,000 gallons of stormwater annually, plant 500 trees, and create a biodiverse pocket of native habitat in environmental neighborhoods.

### Increasing Stormwater Storage in Bullerman Ditch and Maumee River Basin (IN)

Grantee: Fort Wayne City Utilities

Grant Amount: .....\$750,000  
 Matching Funds: .....\$1,370,000  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$2,120,000

Install native wetland vegetation and trees in conjunction with a daylighting project in the Bullerman Ditch watershed in Indiana. Project will eliminate flooding, stabilize stream banks, reduce sediment loading by more than 700,000 pounds, and increase habitat for pollinators and birds across 7.5 acres of greenspace.

### Increasing Green Infrastructure and Stormwater Storage in Milwaukee Schools (MI)

Grantee: Milwaukee Board of School Directors dba Milwaukee Public Schools

Grant Amount: .....\$1,000,000  
 Matching Funds: .....\$1,000,000  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$2,000,000

Conduct removal of 6.5 acres of asphalt and install green infrastructure at six schools in the Milwaukee area. Project will capture over 1.2 million gallons of stormwater per rain event and engage youth and the community in environmentally conscious programming.

### Installing Green Infrastructure and Introducing Native Vegetation Along Kinnickinnic River (WI)

Grantee: Harbor District

Grant Amount: .....\$528,400  
 Matching Funds: .....\$545,500  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$1,073,900

Install 38,300 square feet of green infrastructure, remove 1,843 pounds of sediment, plant 40 trees, and retain 1.76 million gallons of stormwater annually. Project will introduce native vegetation and improve water quality to enhance the riparian corridor's habitat value.

### Installing Native Plants to Capture Polluted Stormwater (MI)

Grantee: Superior Watershed Partnership

Grant Amount: .....\$353,600  
 Matching Funds: .....\$11,100  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$334,700

Install 2.7 acres of green infrastructure to capture 162,924

gallons of runoff stormwater directly along Lake Superior in Marquette, MI. Project will improve water quality, aquatic and terrestrial habitat, including migratory bird habitat, by incorporating native plant, shrub and tree species recommended by the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community.

### Installing Rain Gardens in Chandler Park (MI)

Grantee: Chandler Park Conservancy

Grant Amount: .....\$311,500  
 Matching Funds: .....\$0  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$311,500

Install rain gardens and bioswales in Chandler Park to capture 225,000 gallons of runoff annually to reduce flooding. Project will reduce the volume of stormwater entering Detroit's combined sewer system and build off park efforts to improve greenspace and habitat for communities.

### Installing Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance System in Willow Creek Preserve (WI)

Grantee: Glacial Lakes Conservancy

Grant Amount: .....\$282,100  
 Matching Funds: .....\$115,300  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$397,400

Remove 10,000 pounds of sediment and install a regenerative stormwater conveyance to limit pollutants in urban stormwater runoff entering a class two trout stream in Willow Creek and its tributary. Project will improve water quality of the runoff that enters Willow Creek's tributary and the linear miles downstream.

### Redesigning Sterling Relief Drain in Macomb County (MI)

Grantee: Macomb County Public Works Office

Grant Amount: .....\$415,500  
 Matching Funds: .....\$471,800  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$887,300

Redesign the Sterling relief drain corridor in Macomb County by creating an additional 1.5 miles of diverse native habitat to reduce, slow and filter stormwater from an 1,610 acre urban drainshed. Project will restore 40 acres of habitat, and plant over 900 trees and 12,000 native perennials, pollinator plugs and shrubs, as well as over 200 lbs of native, pollinator seed to capture and infiltrate an estimated 28 million gallons of urban runoff annually.

### Restoring Oak Savanna at Oak Ridge Prairie and Oak County Trail (IN)

Grantee: Delta Institute

Grant Amount: .....\$230,800  
 Matching Funds: .....\$649,500  
 Total Project Amount: .....\$880,300

Plant 700 trees, restore seven acres of endangered native grassland habitat, reduce and treat over 800,000 gallons of stormwater annually, plant native wildflowers, and engage youth and community volunteers in project planting and maintenance work. Project will restore native oak savanna habitat at a high-traffic public county park in northwest Indiana.

(continued)

### **Restoring Urban Forestry in Eastside Detroit Neighborhoods (MI)**

Grantee: The Greening of Detroit

Grant Amount:..... \$388,600

Matching Funds:..... \$511,800

Total Project Amount:..... \$900,400

Implement an urban forest restoration project in Detroit, Michigan, by strategically planting 600 diverse tree species to slow and retain stormwater runoff in the Rouge River watershed. Project will plant trees in public parks and along neighborhood streets in the city's Eastside community, where many residents are affected by high rates of poverty and environmental risks.

### **Restoring Urban Tree Canopy and Increasing Stormwater Storage in Cleveland (OH)**

Grantee: Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$480,000

Matching Funds:..... \$634,200

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,114,200

Plant 500 trees, restore 10 city-owned vacant lots, and improve and protect water quality of Lake Erie by removing 100,000 gallons of stormwater runoff annually to create more biodiverse habitats and a restored tree canopy in the urban core. Project will create a park with significant green infrastructure and plant trees in eight low-canopy target neighborhoods in Cleveland, Ohio.

### **Restoring Wetland and Terrestrial Habitat to Improve Green Spaces and Water Quality in Pierce Park (MI)**

Grantee: Michigan State University

Grant Amount:..... \$815,700

Matching Funds:..... \$324,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,139,700

Redefine wetland elevation contours, connect and restore wetland systems, modify subsurface drain tiles, daylight an ephemeral stream channel, and promote natural path connectivity through development of culverts. Project will lead to the development of 12 acres of wet meadow and oxbow wetlands, seven culvert improvements, 6 acres of reforestation buffer, and 9 acres of spoil and prairie restoration along a mile of Gilkey Creek in the post-industrial Flint area in Michigan.

### **Restoring Wetland With Native Planting to Improve Pollinator Habitat (WI)**

Grantee: Ozaukee County, Wisconsin

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

Matching Funds:..... \$139,900

Total Project Amount:..... \$339,900

Improve stormwater drainage through the restoration and expansion of a one-acre wetland with native plantings to reduce stormwater runoff and flooding events to improve water quality without disrupting natural processes. Project will help mitigate runoff impacts during peak flows to reduce bluff erosion and improve migratory bird and pollinator habitat.

### **REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE**

The following projects seek to improve water quality, soil health, biodiversity and working land resilience by providing technical assistance to landowners with a focus on accelerating the planning and adoption of regenerative agriculture principles. Regenerative agriculture is a systems approach to farming and ranching that integrates multiple principles of agricultural management for improving ecosystem function and resilience.

### **Building Wetland and Wildlife Capacity in Michigan's Western Lake Erie Basin**

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited

Grant Amount:..... \$347,600

Matching Funds:..... \$347,600

Total Project Amount:..... \$695,100

Restore 1,500 acres of wetland, 450 acres of grassland and remove 1 million pounds of nitrogen and 54,874 pounds of phosphorus annually. Project will fund staff positions to support all conservation technicians working in Western Lake Erie Basin through wetland and wildlife trainings and outreach, and will meet with interested landowners to help develop conservation plans and select government cost-share programs.

### **Implementing Regenerative Agricultural Projects on Working Farms (NY)**

Grantee: Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District

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

Matching Funds:..... \$200,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$400,000

Collaborate with 10 farms to install 1,000 acres of prescribed grazing best management practices and facilitate 1,000 acres of additional soil health-related projects like cover cropping, saving 3,000 tons of soil annually to protect water resources and improve environmental resiliency. Project will plan and implement regenerative agricultural projects on working farms in the Lake Ontario Watershed to improve economic and environmental resiliency of the agricultural community.

### **Increasing Farmer Participation and Novel Conservation Practices to Improve Water Quality (MI)**

Grantee: Clinton Conservation District

Grant Amount:..... \$241,200

Matching Funds:..... \$107,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$348,200

Hire a new technician to work with landowners to create monthly local farmer-led workgroups, 90 completed certified conservation practices, and bring 10,000 acres under improved management to improve soil and water quality by preventing phosphorus, nitrogen and sediment runoff. Project will implement peer-to-peer farmer-led groups and Natural Resource Conservation Service Farm Bill programs in the Upper Looking Glass Watershed, Michigan.

(continued)

### Engaging Rural Landowners in Sustainable and Regenerative Agriculture (MI)

Grantee: Berrien County Conservation District

Grant Amount:..... \$247,500

Matching Funds:..... \$291,200

Total Project Amount:..... \$538,800

Hire new technician to connect with previously established landowners, connect with 700 participants through field days and educational workshops, plant 200 acres of trees, cover 1,200 acres of managed grazing, and avoid 60,000 pounds of phosphorus and 40,000 pounds of nitrogen. Project will expand farmer involvement in regenerative agricultural practices to improve soil health and water quality through a holistic management approach in Berrien and Cass counties, Michigan.

### INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL

The following projects seek to protect and enhance the quality of previously restored habitat through strategic invasive species control. Terrestrial and coastal invasive plants will be treated or removed through chemical and manual methods throughout the Great Lakes basin. The strategic retreatment and initial treatment of invasive species conducted by these projects is critical for control efforts to



American robin

be effective in the long term and will enable the successful establishment of native plants.

### Managing Invasive Species and Restoring Bottomlands Along Boardman River (MI)

Grantee: Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network

Grant Amount:..... \$287,500

Matching Funds:..... \$158,200

Total Project Amount:..... \$445,700

Remove invasive species across more than 500 acres and restore newly exposed bottomlands along the Boardman River. Project will protect wild rice species and establish new sites for this state-threatened species.

### Enhancing Riparian Edge to Protect Migratory Birds (WI)

Grantee: Riveredge Nature Center

Grant Amount:..... \$115,700

Matching Funds:..... \$115,900

Total Project Amount:..... \$231,600

Remove 40 woody and herbaceous invasive plant species across more than 200 acres in Ozaukee County to benefit 27 species of concern including marsh-nesting birds, the endangered rusty patched bumble bee and swamp metalmark butterfly. Project will remove and monitor woody and herbaceous invasive plants in habitat significant to migratory and breeding avian species and insect pollinator species.

### Managing Invasive Species at Mequon Nature Preserve (WI)

Grantee: Mequon Nature Preserve

Grant Amount:..... \$200,300

Matching Funds:..... \$202,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$402,300

Manage 20 species of non-native invasive flora within a 50-acre farm and a 57-acre wetland restoration site, in which invasive plant seeds that had been lying dormant are now exposed due to the disturbed soil from the restoration work. Project will treat and reduce coverage of the non-native species across more than 100 acres, including within 12.5 acres of anticipated wetlands, to limit future growth of invasive species and improve water quality downstream.

### Restoring and Enhancing Nature Preserves of Northwest Indiana

Grantee: Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Grant Amount:..... \$592,100

Matching Funds:..... \$352,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$944,100

Restore restoration projects on 14 key nature preserves within five conservation areas in Lake, Porter and Laporte counties in Indiana to benefit rare plant species, migratory birds, forest dependent birds and bats. Project will enhance 500 acres of remnant high quality wetlands, prairies and woodlands.

### Restoring Imperiled Habitats of Northeast Michigan to Benefit Terrestrial and Aquatic Species

(continued)

Grantee: Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council

Grant Amount:..... \$434,300

Matching Funds:..... \$423,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$857,300

Treat over 700 previously managed acres, enhance 80 acres via native vegetation, and restore more than 150 acres of land and 800 acres of wetland to sustain diverse benefits for land, water and wildlife. Project will restore six project sites on protected lands to benefit the wildlife species that rely on them and secure ecosystem services such as water quality and wetland carbon storage.



Great blue heron

**Restoring Wetlands to Protect Marsh Hawks at Nasby Fen Nature Preserve (IN)**

Grantee: Blue Heron Ministries

Grant Amount:..... \$369,500

Matching Funds:..... \$379,200

Total Project Amount:..... \$748,700

Restore over 60 acres of upland wood and field to prairie and oak savanna and remove invasive species across more than 100 acres of wetlands to suppress and displace populations of non-native invasive species and encourage establishment and perpetuation of native communities. Project will treat ecologically unique fen and oak savanna and remove invasive herbaceous and woody plant species to benefit State and Federally-listed migratory and resident birds, plants, insects and reptiles.

**Sustaining and Enhancing Cedarburg Bog Habitat through Continued Invasive Species Control (WI)**

Grantee: Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium

Grant Amount:..... \$292,400

Matching Funds:..... \$225,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$517,400

Remove invasive buckthorn across over 150 acres of Cedarburg Bog to protect wetland plant communities that include cedar and tamarack trees. Project will use cut and treat with herbicide method to destroy buckthorn and maintain the high quality cedar tamarack swamp.

**Sustaining Ecological Integrity for Threatened Species Through Invasive Tree and Shrub Control (IL)**

Grantee: Lake County Forest Preserve District

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

Matching Funds:..... \$200,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$400,000

Restore 67 acres of wet prairie, and sustain and enhance habitat for several state-listed threatened and endangered plant species across 164 acres of sedge meadow and oak savanna and woodland habitats. Project will manage aggressive and advancing invasive woody plants that are overwhelming habitat by using efficient methodologies, including cutting, removal and stump herbicide treatments.

**OTHER**

**Monitoring Marsh Birds in the Great Lake Region to Restore Wetlands (IL, IN, MI, NY, WI, OH)**

Grantee: National Audubon Society

Grant Amount:..... \$1,200,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,200,000

Restore 3,000 acres of wetland across 12 priority regions of Great Lakes coastal wetlands to protect the habitat of 14 species of marsh birds. Project will restore coastal wetland at high priority sites and build capacity of key landowning partners to incorporate marsh bird monitoring at sites with critical data gaps that support development of local marsh bird conservation networks.