



SOGL – Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Watershed

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PARTNERS

- Caerus Foundation
- Crown Family Philanthropies
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
- Walder Foundation
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife 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 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.1 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

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OVERVIEW

Sustain Our Great Lakes (SOGL) is a public-private partnership that supports habitat restoration in the Great Lakes basin. In 2020, a new partnership formed under the SOGL program to support projects in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Watershed. The additional funding is administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and supported by Caerus Foundation, Crown Family Philanthropies, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, Walder Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In 2020, eight grants totaling \$1.36 million were awarded, leveraging approximately \$1.33 million in grantee matching contributions and generating a total on-the-ground conservation impact of \$2.7 million.



Least bittern

These grants will support projects across Wisconsin's Lake Michigan watershed to restore and preserve habitats and natural landscapes and improve water quality. The projects will enhance the quality and connectivity of streams habitat, control invasive species, restore wetland habitat, and improve nearshore health and water quality through green stormwater infrastructure to enhance biodiversity and safeguard habitat for critical species.

Collectively, the eight projects receiving grants will:

- Control invasive species on 440 acres of wetland, upland and riparian habitat
- Restore 825 acres of wetland habitat
- Prevent more than 730 tons of sediment from entering waterways annually
- Add 4.3 million gallons of stormwater storage capacity
- Install more than 11,500 square feet of green stormwater infrastructure
- Create or improve six public access points
- Plant more than 100 trees for green infrastructure and habitat benefits



Designing and Constructing Green Stormwater Infrastructure on Milwaukee Schoolyards (WI)

Grantee: Milwaukee Public Schools

Grant Amount:\$625,000
 Matching Funds:\$625,556
 Total Project:\$1,250,556

Conduct detailed design, permitting and construction of green infrastructure at five Milwaukee schoolyards to address stormwater needs. Project will plant 57 trees, build more than 87,000 acres of greenspace, remove 11,500 acres of impervious surface and add 4 million gallons of stormwater storage annually.

Restoring Forest-Wetland Habitat for the Rusty-Patched Bumble Bee by Removing Invasive Species (WI)

Grantee: Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network

Grant Amount:\$50,105
 Matching Funds:\$50,105
 Total Project:\$100,210

Restore prairie, woods, and wetland habitat within the Pike River Watershed to benefit populations of the rusty-patched bumble bee and other pollinators in Wisconsin. Project will remove invasive species, improve water quality and improve public recreation by restoring nearly 30 acres of habitat.

Restoring Prairie Habitat and Engaging the Community to Increase Recovery of Native Wildlife (WI)

Grantee: Hunger Task Force

Grant Amount:\$107,140
 Matching Funds:\$107,140
 Total Project:\$214,280

Restore prairie habitat along the Root River in Franklin, Wisconsin to increase habitat availability for wildlife, improve habitat connectivity, increase native species competition, decrease runoff and increase critical populations of rusty-patched bumble bee and other species. Project will restore 20 acres of prairie, 12 of which are crop land being converted back to prairie, and 8 of which will restore remnant prairie habitat.

Transforming a Patchwork of Rural Lands into Wildlife Habitat (WI)

Grantee: Crossroads at Big Creek

Grant Amount:\$189,440
 Matching Funds:\$247,000
 Total Project:\$436,440

Manage ecological trajectories to transform a patchwork of past rural and agricultural lands into reconnected, thriving, high-quality forest and meadow habitat at Big Creek estuary in Wisconsin. Project will restore 125 acres of habitat, control invasive species, and improve habitat connectivity and resilience.

Improving Shoreline Habitat and Public Accessibility in Downtown Milwaukee (WI)

Grantee: Harbor District

Grant Amount:\$254,500
 Matching Funds:\$300,000
 Total Project:\$554,500

Improve habitat in downtown Milwaukee, ensuring public accessibility will accompany waterfront development, to improve shoreline habitat. Project will plant 50 trees and restore downtown shoreline habitat to benefit fish, waterfowl, insects, and macroinvertebrates by naturalizing portions of dock walls and providing native vegetation.

Building Green Stormwater Infrastructure to Reduce Pollution and Engage Youth in Conservation (WI)

Grantee: Neighborhood House of Milwaukee

Grant Amount:\$75,000
 Matching Funds:\$68,468
 Total Project:\$143,468

Replace an old infrastructure on Milwaukee's near west side with green infrastructure components focused on conserving and improving water resources and reducing sewer overflows that impact the Menomonee River. Project will add more than 7,000 gallons of stormwater storage with green stormwater infrastructure and use the green infrastructure components as learning tools for an environmental education program.

Restoring Ecological Function and Reducing Invasives on State Natural Areas (WI)

Grantee: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Grant Amount:\$228,570
 Matching Funds:\$178,835
 Total Project:\$407,405

Conduct ecological restoration through a combination of prescribed fire, selective tree thinning, brush mowing, invasive species control, and revegetation on high-conservation-value state natural areas and surrounding landscapes in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Watershed. Project will restore 1,800 acres on public and private properties to form protective buffers around quality habitats to expand available habitat and habitat diversity, control invasives, and improve connectivity.

Converting the Underwood Creek Culvert in Elm Grove into an Ecologically Restored Stream (WI)

Grantee: Village of Elm Grove

Grant Amount:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:\$225,525
 Total Project:\$525,525

Convert an enclosed culvert on Underwood Creek in downtown Elm Grove into a bio-engineered channel with natural hydraulic function, improved fish passage and restored riparian habitat. Project will rectify one fish passage barrier to improve stream ecology with the added benefits of increased recreational value and improved stormwater management.