



RESTORE Colorado

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PARTNERS

- Great Outdoors Colorado
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Oxy
- Gates Family Foundation
- Walton Family Foundation
- Cargill
- Nestlé
- Chevron
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest 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 6,800 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of more than \$10 billion. NFWF is an equal opportunity provider.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org



Mule deer

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced the 2024 round of funding for RESTORE Colorado projects with support from the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, Great Outdoors Colorado, Colorado Water Conservation Board, Gates Family Foundation, Walton Family Foundation, Cargill, Nestlé, Chevron and Oxy. Twelve new grants were awarded a total of \$3.7 million to advance conservation across the state of Colorado. The 12 awards announced will leverage \$4.3 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$7.9 million.

Stretching from the rolling shortgrass prairies of the Great Plains to the crest of the Rocky Mountains, and into the canyons of the desert Southwest, Colorado hosts some of the most impressive landscapes and wildlife habitat in the country. At the same time, a rapidly growing human population and increasing demands on public and private lands has strained wildlife and their habitats in the region.

Restoration and Stewardship of Outdoor Resources and Environment (RESTORE) Colorado funds at-scale habitat restoration, expansion and improvement projects across priority landscapes including:

- River corridors, riparian areas and wetlands
- Eastern Colorado grasslands
- Sagebrush
- Big game winter range and migration routes
- Forestland projects in specific geographies

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Advancing the Project Design for Three Wildlife Crossing Structures on I-70 (CO)

Grantee: Summit County

Grant Amount:.....\$450,000

Matching Funds:.....\$275,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$725,000

Develop the initial project design of the East Vail Pass Wildlife Crossing Project, which will install three wildlife crossing structures and wildlife-exclusionary fencing on I-70 between Vail Pass and Copper Mountain. Project will restore landscape connectivity and improve safety for motorists by decreasing the number of wildlife collisions on the highway.

Enhancing Habitat for Migratory Birds, Greater Prairie-Chicken and Mule Deer in Yuma County (CO)

Grantee: Yuma County Conservation District

Grant Amount:.....\$320,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$320,000

Treat and remove cheatgrass and restore 730 acres of cropland through incentivizing enrollment into the Conservation Reserve Program Upland Bird SAFE program. Project will create, restore and enhance habitat for migratory birds, greater prairie-chicken and mule deer.

Establishing a Youth Crew to Remove and Improve Fencing in Priority Big Game Habitat (CO)

Grantee: Year One Inc., dba Mile High Youth Corps

Grant Amount:.....\$291,100

Matching Funds:.....\$72,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$363,100

Establish a youth conservation crew to remove and improve fencing in priority big game habitat and riparian areas in southeastern Colorado. Project will improve big game movement across winter range and migration corridors.

Implementing Virtual Fencing to Increase Efficiency in Rotational Grazing in Walden (CO)

Grantee: Backcountry Hunters & Anglers

Grant Amount:.....\$193,700

Matching Funds:.....\$119,500

Total Project Amount:.....\$313,200

Implement virtual fencing to increase efficiency and cost effectiveness on rotational grazing. Project will allow the removal of fencing that impedes wildlife movement, which will in turn increase wildlife access to essential forage and refuge areas.

Improving Planning and Management of Nonnative Plants in the Arroyos del Sol Natural Area (CO)

Grantee: City of Greeley

Grant Amount:.....\$250,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$250,000

Improve management of nonnative plant species and upland restoration management planning in a preserved open space

between Greeley and Winsor, Colorado, for community recreation and benefit. Project will improve wildlife habitat by reducing pressure from nonnative plant species so that existing native species can establish healthier populations.

Increasing Capacity for the Ute Mountain Tribe on the Ground Projects to Benefit Wildlife Habitat (CO)

Grantee: Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

Grant Amount:.....\$284,900

Matching Funds:.....\$183,600

Total Project Amount:.....\$468,500

Launch a conservation crew for the Ute Mountain Tribe to implement projects such as stream restoration, native grass restoration and gathering traditional harvest for ceremonies. The crew will bring much needed capacity for on-the-ground projects while also being a source of pride for the Tribe, encouraging workforce development opportunities for Tribal members that connect them to their land and water.

Reconstructing the Diversion Dam and Headgate on the North Fork of the Gunnison River (CO)

Grantee: Western Slope Conservation Center

Grant Amount:.....\$235,900

Matching Funds:.....\$2,140,200

Total Project Amount:.....\$2,376,100

Reconstruct and modernize the diversion dam and headgate to the North Fork of the Gunnison to automatically measure flows into the ditch while keeping excess water in the river for aquatic habitat. Project will reconnect a quarter-mile section of the river with water that has traditionally been dried up during the irrigation season for the benefit of bluehead sucker, flannelmouth sucker and roundtail chub.

Restoring Front Range Urban Wetlands to Benefit Wildlife in Arvada (CO)

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited

Grant Amount:.....\$139,100

Matching Funds:.....\$392,200

Total Project Amount:.....\$531,300

Remove invasive Russian olive and cattail to prevent overpopulation in two wetland systems in Arvada using a phased approach to maximize effectiveness and prevent reestablishment. Project will increase water availability for the wetland plant communities, which are critical resources for waterfowl and other wildlife.

Restoring Habitat for San Juan Cutthroat Trout in the Navajo-Blanco Basin (CO)

Grantee: Western Landowners Alliance

Grant Amount:.....\$346,700

Matching Funds:.....\$404,200

Total Project Amount:.....\$750,900

Enhance instream riparian habitat, install fish barrier and relocate nonnative species. Project will restore the San Juan cutthroat trout to upper reaches of the Little Navajo River and improve thousands of acres of upland wildlife habitat.

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Greater prairie-chicken

Restoring Hydrological Connectivity and Creating a Climate-Resilient Watershed in Southeastern Colorado (CO)

Grantee: Southern Plains Land Trust
 Grant Amount:.....\$217,600
 Matching Funds:.....\$93,400
 Total Project Amount:.....\$311,000

Remove stock dams, install anti-erosion structures and replant riparian vegetation to restore watershed health on Heartland Ranch Nature Preserve. Project will restore hydrologic connectivity and work toward creating a climate-resilient watershed in southeastern Colorado.

Restoring, Protecting and Expanding Grasslands through the Audubon Conservation Ranching Program (CO)

Grantee: National Audubon Society
 Grant Amount:.....\$445,500
 Matching Funds:.....\$200,000
 Total Project Amount:.....\$645,500

Improve Audubon Conservation Ranching (ACR) capacity in eastern Colorado by hiring a dedicated range ecologist

to increase awareness of ACR programs and encourage compliance with ACR program protocols through the development of a ranch-specific Habitat Management Plan. Project will increase collaboration with local stakeholders and empower ranchers to take an active role in wildlife conservation on their property, while increasing forage productivity.

Restoring Riparian Ecosystems in Arapahoe Roosevelt National Forest (CO)

Grantee: Trout Unlimited
 Grant Amount:.....\$514,400
 Matching Funds:.....\$370,000
 Total Project Amount:.....\$884,400

Implement process-based restoration of riparian ecosystems in fire-impacted watersheds across Arapahoe Roosevelt National Forest focusing on watershed health, water quality and habitat connectivity. The projects will restore approximately 3.5 miles of stream habitat for the benefit of native fish species and to improve stream connectivity.