



Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund

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PARTNERS

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 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.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

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Spectacled eider and ducklings in Alaska

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced a 2024-year round of funding for Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund projects. Seven new habitat conservation and population management grants totaling more than \$504,000 were awarded. The seven awards announced leveraged \$1.2 million in matching contributions from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$1.7 million.

The Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund (AFWF) aims to achieve measurable on-the-ground conservation outcomes and fill key information gaps through assessments and strategic monitoring that result in improved habitat or population management actions. The program also works to conduct outreach to Native Alaskan communities to broaden engagement and conservation stewardship of natural resources, and to foster traditional ecological knowledge sharing that develops proactive management strategies.

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REGIONAL STRATEGIES

The AFWF's strategies focus on targeted geographies including the North Slope, Cook Inlet/Matanuska-Susitna Basin, and the Chugach and Tongass National Forests, as well as Pacific salmon conservation projects within the State of Alaska.



Map of targeted geographic regions for Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund

Pacific Salmon Conservation

In partnership with federal agencies, NFWF is protecting, enhancing and restoring essential salmon habitat to ensure long-term viability of the stock complex, and fill data gaps that will directly inform Pacific salmon subsistence managers.

Chugach and Tongass National Forests

In partnership with the USFS, NFWF is supporting projects on these National Forests to improve Pacific salmon habitat. Grants include watershed assessments, in-stream habitat restoration, and aquatic-organism passage projects on National Forests and adjacent public and private lands for the benefit of Pacific salmon, while engaging Alaska Natives.

Cook Inlet, Kodiak Archipelago and Matanuska-Susitna Basin

NFWF, in partnership with federal agencies in Alaska, is supporting comprehensive watershed-management approaches to conserve fish and wildlife in the Cook Inlet and Matanuska-Susitna Basin regions. Projects include incorporating outreach to Alaska Native communities to foster traditional ecological knowledge sharing and stewardship that will lead to proactive management actions and measurable conservation benefits.

North Slope

In coordination with USFWS, NFWF continues to focus on opportunities to implement and fill key information gaps for fish and wildlife populations that will result in improved monitoring and management of species in the North Slope.

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2024 GRANTS

Assessing Shorebirds in Teshekpuk Lake Special Area of the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska - II (AK)

Grantee: Manomet

Grant Amount:.....\$95,200

Matching Funds:.....\$507,400

Total Project Amount:.....\$602,600

Conduct shorebird surveys in the Teshekpuk Lake Special Area of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A) for a second year of repeat surveys following the protocols developed by the Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring (PRISM). Project will compare changes in shorebird populations from surveys conducted between 2007-2008 and in 2023-2024 to provide critical information on the distribution of shorebirds breeding in the NRP-A.

Building Water Quality Monitoring Capacity for Indigenous Communities in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta (AK)

Grantee: Woodwell Climate Research Center

Grant Amount:.....\$93,000

Matching Funds:.....\$93,100

Total Project Amount:.....\$186,100

Develop Indigenous-led water quality and environmental monitoring sites across subsistence-reliant communities in Alaska's Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta to fill key knowledge gaps and inform salmon habitat restoration and population management actions. Project will engage with tribal partners to define shared goals and opportunities for establishing monitoring sites and initiate the planning process for implementing tribally-led monitoring programs.

Facilitating Collaboration and Participation with Alaska Tribes on the Gravel-to-Gravel Initiative (AK)

Grantee: US Fish and Wildlife Service

Grant Amount:.....\$41,000

Matching Funds:.....\$115,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$156,000

Facilitate collaboration and participation between tribal leaders and federal agency partners through the Department of the Interior's Gravel-to-Gravel Keystone Initiative to improve Pacific salmon and ecosystem resiliency in the Yukon, Kuskokwim and Norton Sound regions of Alaska. Project will strengthen existing conservation and management activities to sustain salmon and incorporate Tribes in conservation decisions and research affecting subsistence resources.

Inventorizing Fish Species Presence in Controller Bay Streams and Lakes (AK)

Grantee: Wild Salmon Center

Grant Amount:.....\$98,500

Matching Funds:.....\$123,400

Total Project Amount:.....\$221,900

Collect fish species presence data in Controller Bay streams

and lakes to support nominating eligible water bodies to Alaska's Anadromous Waters Catalog. Project will provide critical information to resource managers for monitoring fish population responses to climate change and fill data gaps in genetic baselines for Coho salmon.

Restoring Riparian and Upland Forest in Southeast Alaska (AK)

Grantee: Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition

Grant Amount:.....\$78,800

Matching Funds:.....\$78,900

Total Project Amount:.....\$157,700

Assess, prioritize and restore young-growth forests and riparian habitat to benefit fish and wildlife, subsistence resources, and watershed and forest health throughout Ketchikan watersheds in Southeast Alaska. Project will assess 300 acres for forest thinning, restore 50 acres of riparian and upland habitat, and employ and train local indigenous work crews.

Sampling Subsistence Salmon Harvest in the Kanektok River Watershed (AK)

Grantee: Native Village of Kwinhagak

Grant Amount:.....\$58,300

Matching Funds:.....\$72,100

Total Project Amount:.....\$130,400

Establish a Pacific salmon monitoring program on the Kanektok River to support the Native village of Kwinhagak in co-stewarding salmon resources for subsistence use in Alaska. Project will fill data gaps on salmon populations, improve subsistence harvest management by understanding the composition of returning runs and detecting population-level changes in stock characteristics, build tribal capacity, and increase communication on salmon conservation and management in the region.

Surveying McKay's Bunting Population on St. Matthew and Hall Islands (AK)

Grantee: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge

Grant Amount:.....\$40,000

Matching Funds:.....\$220,500

Total Project Amount:.....\$260,500

Survey McKay's bunting population, range, refugia and habitat use on St. Matthew and Hall Islands in Alaska to inform management decisions on the species' recovery efforts. Project will determine whether the 38 percent decline in the global breeding population documented between the 2003 and 2018 surveys were a short-term fluctuation that has since abated or is part of a long-term decline that warrants additional research and possibly remedial actions to recover the species.