



# Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators: 2024 Report

## FUNDING PARTNERS

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest Service
- Bayer Crop Science
- Danone North America
- The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation



Monarch butterfly

Since 2015, the Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund has awarded approximately **\$29 million** to 156 projects that are helping conserve and recover the imperiled monarch butterfly and other pollinators. Grantees have matched this investment with an additional **\$43.9 million**, for a total on-the-ground impact of more than **\$72.9 million**.

## 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](http://www.nfwf.org)

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## MONARCH BUTTERFLY AND POLLINATORS CONSERVATION FUND: 2024 REPORT

The monarch butterfly is one of the most iconic species in North America, and its annual migration cycle is one of the most remarkable natural phenomena in the world. However, during the past 20 years, the monarch butterfly population has declined by more than 80 percent throughout much of its range. Pollinators such as the federally endangered rusty patched bumble bee are also experiencing population declines. Habitat loss is one of the primary factors challenging pollinators.

In response to this threat, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) established the Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund in 2015 to protect, conserve and increase habitat for pollinators. Partners include U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Bayer Crop Science, Danone North America and The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation. The program invests in projects that improve the availability of high-quality habitat, increase the capacity needed to expand conservation efforts into the future, and support implementation of technical assistance to engage private landowners with pollinator conservation practices on working lands. By leveraging the resources and expertise of its partners in this way, the program is helping to reverse recent population declines and ensure the survival of monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

*(continued)*



# NFWF

## Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund



**156**

Projects funded

**3,400**

Pounds of native milkweed seed collected

**1,800**

Workshops or meetings hosted

**416,000**

Acres restored or enhanced

**1.1 million** Native milkweed seedlings propagated



Rusty patched bumble bee

Since 2015, the Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund has supported projects that address the following three conservation priorities to restore populations of at-risk pollinators:

**INCREASING THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF HABITAT**

The goal of this conservation strategy is to create and sustain a connected patchwork of pollinator habitat to support at-risk pollinators and the monarch butterfly. It emphasizes restoring and enhancing land to support ample milkweed and nectar plants as well as overwintering habitat. This strategy also seeks to ensure adequate supply of native milkweed and nectar-producing plant seeds or plugs for habitat restoration efforts.

**PROJECT EXAMPLE: Ecoregional Seed Program for Monarchs across Eastern Broadleaf Forest**

NFWF Award Amount . . . . . \$150,000  
 Matching Funds . . . . . \$485,080  
 Total Project . . . . . \$635,080

The Pollinator Partnership established a seed collection program for the Eastern Broadleaf Forest and provided technical assistance to public and private land managers in five states. The project collected 60 pounds of milkweed seed and propagated 11,000 seedlings to support the improvement of 27,000 acres of monarch habitat.

**COORDINATION, CAPACITY BUILDING**

The goal of this conservation strategy is to increase organizational capacity and coordination among organizations, states, and regions engaged in pollinator conservation. Grant funding supports work to develop regional strategies and plans, build capacity and expertise, maximize information exchange, and distribute information about on-the-ground conservation practices.

**PROJECT EXAMPLE: Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy**

NFWF Award Amount . . . . . \$144,750  
 Matching Funds . . . . . \$170,000  
 Total Project . . . . . \$314,750

The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies led a regional coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. The project established common habitat and population goals, as well as strategies and monitoring protocols to be implemented at the state level.

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PRIVATE WORKING LANDS**

This conservation strategy supports implementation of technical assistance to increase the number of private landowners engaged in pollinator conservation practices on private working lands.

**PROJECT EXAMPLE: Using Technical Assistance to Increase Resource Conservation District Effort for Monarchs**

NFWF Award Amount . . . . . \$300,000  
 Matching Funds . . . . . \$800,000  
 Total Project . . . . . \$1,100,000

The California Association of Resource Conservation Districts provided technical assistance on private working lands by hiring a statewide Monarch Project Coordinator and a Technical Assistance Trainer. The project developed 120 pollinator conservation plans, improved 2,391 acres of habitat, coordinated 110 meetings and workshops, and reached 900 landowners.



# Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund

## MONARCH BUTTERFLY AND POLLINATORS GRANTEES

40 Acre Conservation League . . . . .	\$300,000	Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas . . . . .	\$344,080
Alternare, A.C. . . . .	\$50,000	Pathfinders Resource	
American Bird Conservancy . . . . .	\$498,265	Conservation and Development. . . . .	\$432,870
Anoka Conservation District . . . . .	\$250,000	Pheasants Forever . . . . .	\$2,025,401
Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum . . . . .	\$92,787	Pollinator Partnership . . . . .	\$2,820,886
Audubon International. . . . .	\$150,000	Practical Farmers of Iowa . . . . .	\$175,000
Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania. . . . .	\$190,983	Prairie Pothole Partners . . . . .	\$50,000
Borderlands Restoration Network . . . . .	\$200,000	Prairie Rivers of Iowa Resource	
Bureau of Land Management. . . . .	\$86,916	Conservation and Development. . . . .	\$96,880
Burroughs Audubon of Greater Kansas City . . . . .	\$228,107	Pronatura Noreste A.C. . . . .	\$50,000
California Association of Resource		Regents of the University of Minnesota . . . . .	\$222,392
Conservation Districts. . . . .	\$300,000	Resource Conservation and	
Center for Ecodynamic Restoration . . . . .	\$249,916	Development for Northeast Iowa. . . . .	\$165,000
Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District. . . . .	\$250,000	Sand County Foundation. . . . .	\$98,768
Compatible Lands Foundation. . . . .	\$235,992	Santa Monica Mountains Fund. . . . .	\$174,901
Dakota County . . . . .	\$150,000	Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians . . . . .	\$175,000
Dane County Parks. . . . .	\$299,463	Southwest Monarch Study. . . . .	\$88,950
Driftless Area Land Conservancy. . . . .	\$241,255	Superior Watershed Partnership . . . . .	\$59,320
Ducks Unlimited. . . . .	\$986,871	Texan by Nature . . . . .	\$411,959
Field Museum of Natural History . . . . .	\$147,988	Texas Discovery Gardens. . . . .	\$125,000
Friends of Crex. . . . .	\$199,576	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board . . . . .	\$480,000
Friends of Red Rock Canyon . . . . .	\$109,208	The Bee and Butterfly Habitat Fund. . . . .	\$175,000
Friends of the Mississippi River . . . . .	\$233,250	The Board of Trustees	
Friends of the Neal Smith NWR . . . . .	\$87,000	of the University of Illinois . . . . .	\$315,265
Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District. . . . .	\$175,000	The Conservation Foundation . . . . .	\$247,942
Golden Sands Resource Conservation		The Learning Center	
and Development Council. . . . .	\$250,000	at the Euchee Butterfly Farm . . . . .	\$340,939
Grassland Water District . . . . .	\$173,040	The Nature Conservancy. . . . .	\$1,242,484
Great River Greening . . . . .	\$195,916	The Prairie Enthusiasts . . . . .	\$245,518
Houston Wilderness . . . . .	\$485,244	The Wetlands Initiative . . . . .	\$166,497
Ice Age Trail Alliance . . . . .	\$457,020	The Xerces Society	
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation . . . . .	\$1,518,095	for Invertebrate Conservation . . . . .	\$825,964
Jo Daviess Conservation Fund . . . . .	\$83,640	Transition Habitat Conservancy . . . . .	\$230,041
Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition . . . . .	\$125,000	Trinity County Resource Conservation District . . . . .	\$233,683
Katy Prairie Conservancy. . . . .	\$250,000	TreePeople . . . . .	\$249,610
Keystone Policy Center . . . . .	\$30,000	Utah State University. . . . .	\$210,000
La Cruz Habitat Projection Project . . . . .	\$60,000	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service . . . . .	\$1,167,663
Lake County Forest Preserve District . . . . .	\$135,000	University of Kansas Center for Research . . . . .	\$248,006
Lomakatsi Restoration Project . . . . .	\$193,785	University of Northern Iowa . . . . .	\$205,537
Midwest Association of		U.S. Forest Service . . . . .	\$205,086
Fish and Wildlife Agencies . . . . .	\$300,951	Walker Basin Conservancy . . . . .	\$160,195
Missouri Botanic Garden. . . . .	\$154,500	Western Association	
Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation. . . . .	\$494,410	of Fish and Wildlife Agencies . . . . .	\$120,000
Monarch Joint Venture . . . . .	\$1,978,748	Wild Utah Project. . . . .	\$158,465
National Audubon Society . . . . .	\$437,409	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. . . . .	\$169,796
National Wildlife Federation . . . . .	\$566,000		
National Wild Turkey Federation . . . . .	\$99,999		
Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin. . . . .	\$100,000		
Nature Conservancy of Canada . . . . .	\$80,000		
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. . . . .	\$332,518		
North American Butterfly Association. . . . .	\$199,271		
		<b>Total Pollinator Fund Grant Awards (2015 - 2024) . . . . .</b>	<b>\$29 million</b>
		<b>Total Grantee Matching Contributions . . . . .</b>	<b>\$43.9 million</b>
		<b>Total Conservation Impact . . . . .</b>	<b>\$72.9 million</b>