RESOLUTION No. 2024-171

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, THROUGH THE 2024 NATIONAL COASTAL RESILIENCE FUND TO SUPPORT THE ACQUISITION OF SHORES BOULEVARD PARCELS.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, published its National Coastal Resilience Fund 2024 Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide funding to communities for current and future effects of rising sea levels including coastal flooding, erosion, and ecosystem changes; and

WHEREAS, land acquisition is considered an eligible activity under the RFP; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved the annual Land Acquisition and Management Program list of properties for acquisition and conservation; and

WHEREAS, ranked number one on the list was approximately 195-acers of land located along the western bank of the Matanzas River within St. Augustine Shores development ("Shores Boulevard Parcels"); and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of the Shores Boulevard Parcels would significantly contribute to the ongoing management of flood risk experienced by the St. Augustine Shores residential community, protect critical assets, and preserve the wide variety of plant and animal life located within the 195 acres of pristine and undeveloped land; and

WHEREAS, the Grants and Legislative Affairs Department reviewed the RFP and determined the requirements, restrictions, and/or obligations associated with the award of grant funding, or the grant itself, would not negatively impact the interests of the County; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County to apply for the grant funding.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida that:

- **Section 1.** The above Recitals are hereby incorporated into the body of this Resolution, and are adopted as findings of fact.
 - **Section 2.** The Board of County Commissioners hereby authorizes the County

Administrator, or designee, to execute and submit, on behalf of the County, an application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation through the 2024 National Coastal Resilience Fund, to support the acquisition of the Shores Boulevard Parcels.

Section 3. To the extent that there are typographical, administrative, or scrivener's errors that do not change the tone, tenor, or context of this Resolution, then this Resolution may be revised without further action by the Board of County Commissioners.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, State of Florida, this 16th day of April, 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Rendition Date_ APR 1 7 2024

By: ______Sarah Arnold, Chair

ATTEST: Brandon J. Patty,

Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

By: Custal Suth
Deputy Clerk





National Coastal Resilience Fund

NFWF CONTACTS

Mirjam Kuzee

Program Director mirjam.kuzee@nfwf.org 202-857-0166

Arielle Mion

Program Manager arielle.mion@nfwf.org 202-595-2656

Christine Latil

Program Coordinator christine.latil@nfwf.org 202-595-2494

PROGRAM PARTNERS

- NOAA
- U.S. Department of Defense
- Shell USA
- TransRe
- Oxy
- Salesforce

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.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street, NW Suite 1000 Washington, D.C., 20005 202-857-0166



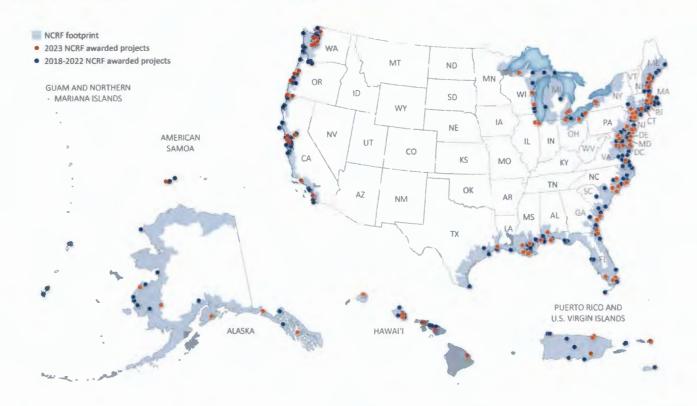
Wetland in Georgia

OVERVIEW

The National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF) supports nature-based solutions that enhance the resilience of coastal communities and habitats to address increasing threats from storms, sea and lake level changes, flooding, erosion and other coastal hazards. The NCRF invests in nature-based projects – restoring coastal marshes and forests, reconnecting floodplains, rebuilding dunes or other natural buffers, or installing living shorelines – to protect communities from coastal hazards and enhance habitats for fish and wildlife.

In 2023, with increased funding provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the NCRF awarded approximately \$144 million in competitive grants to support planning, design and implementation of nature-based resilience projects. Since its creation in 2018, the NCRF has invested more than \$466 million to 400 projects, leveraging more than \$433 million in conservation resources for a total conservation impact of \$900 million.

The NCRF is primarily funded by, and coordinated with, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In 2023, additional funding was contributed by the U.S. Department of Defense, Shell USA, TransRe, Oxy and Salesforce.



NATIONAL PROGRAM MEETING REGIONAL NEEDS

The NCRF is a national program focused on enhancing the resilience of coastal communities across the United States in consideration of differing regional circumstances, needs and priorities. There is no "one-size-fits-all" approach for building community resilience as climate change is affecting communities differently. For example, communities in the Southeastern Atlantic and Gulf coasts are experiencing more intense storms and land subsidence, Northeastern and Great Lakes communities are grappling with increasingly heavy rainfall events and stormwater flooding, and communities in Alaska are experiencing thawing permafrost and extreme erosion. To address this regional variation, NFWF is building a diverse portfolio of projects that have been prioritized in state and local resilience plans and are tailored to meet the unique needs of coastal communities in each region.

To meet communities where they are and to build on significant planning and assessment that has already been done in many coastal communities, NFWF uses a "pipeline" approach to fund projects through all stages from planning to implementation. We prioritize projects that:

- Are "restoration-ready" and can be quickly implemented to deliver community resilience and habitat benefits
- Advance planning, site assessment, design, and permitting to position at-risk communities for future implementation
- Increase our understanding of innovative nature-based approaches for building resilience and adapting to changing environmental conditions

 Benefit underserved communities and directly engage residents in all stages of project planning, design and implementation

A SCIENCE AND OUTCOME-BASED APPROACH

NFWF works to ensure that we are funding the most impactful projects by using science to inform our investment decisions and conducting robust evaluation of project outcomes. Through Regional Coastal Resilience Assessments, we identify lands where restoration has the greatest potential for enhancing protection for human communities and improving habitat for fish and wildlife. The public can access these Assessments through the online Coastal Resilience Evaluation and Siting Tool (CREST) and use these tools to select and evaluate sites. These tools are being developed and refined in partnership with NOAA and the University of North Carolina-Asheville's National Environmental Modeling Analysis Center.

Through monitoring and evaluation, NFWF measures the efficacy of our investments in terms of community resilience and ecological outcomes. This helps build our understanding of the most cost-effective solutions for mitigating risk to coastal systems and communities and helps us refine and improve our grant-making.

Finally, through capacity building and knowledge transfer, we share lessons from NCRF-funded projects with the goal of building community capacity. This furthers our understanding of how nature-based solutions can be effectively deployed to reduce risks to communities, enhance habitats for fish and wildlife, and deliver other ecological benefits.

