



Six Community Fisheries Network Organizations Win Grant Awards from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

On Monday, April 30, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced the second round of grant awards from its Fisheries Innovation Fund, a program launched in 2010 to support sustainable fisheries in the U.S. Among the grantees are six member organizations of the Community Fisheries Network, a new group of community-based fishing organizations from across the United States that share the goal of increasing the long-term sustainability of commercial fishing communities.

The Fisheries Innovation Fund was launched in 2010 “with the goal of sustaining fishermen while rebuilding fish stocks, the new grants will aid the design and implementation of projects that provide technical and practical support for working fishing communities across the country.”

The six CFN awardees are:

Alaska Marine Conservation Council (AK)

Project: Securing Community Opportunity in Kodiak’s Jig Fishery

Fisheries Innovation Fund Award: \$90,000; Matching Funds: \$126,460; Total Project: \$216,460

Through governance support, quality enhancement and market innovations, this project will assist the fishing community of Kodiak in securing entry-level opportunity in the jig fishery.

City of Morro Bay (CA)

Project: Fishing Community Sustainability Planning and Development

Fisheries Innovation Fund Award: \$135,000; Matching Funds: \$125,000; Total Project: \$260,000

This project will develop a strategic plan for Morro Bay and Monterey fisheries aimed at building economic, social and environmental sustainability, and community fishing association capacity.

Community Development Partnership (MA)

Project: Best Practices in Fisheries Trust Management

Fisheries Innovation Fund Award: \$124,978.14; Matching Funds: \$200,000; Total Project: \$324,978.14

The project will develop a scalable model to transfer best practices and lessons learned in fishery trust management to national audiences, and to communities seeking to sustain local fishing businesses and economic growth.

Island Institute in partnership with Ecotrust

Project: Community Fisheries Network Capacity Building and Expansion:

Fisheries Innovation Fund Award: \$84,000; Matching Funds: \$110,000; Total Project: \$194,000

This project will expand the Community Fisheries Network by building organizational and business capacity in additional ports and regions, disseminating innovations that will improve the long-term sustainability of fishing communities and fisheries businesses.

Maine Coast Fishermen's Association (ME)

Project: MCFA Gulf of Maine Cod Risk Pool

Fisheries Innovation Fund Award: \$110,000; Matching Funds: \$75,000; Total Project: \$185,000

Fishermen will face a significant cut to their Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod allocation for 2012. This project will develop a GOM Cod Risk Pool that will help fishermen stay within bycatch limits while accessing healthy stocks.

Penobscot East Resource Center, Inc. (ME)

Project: Designing Fisheries Licensing for Community Resilience

Fisheries Innovation Fund Award: \$31,977; Matching Funds: \$48,072; Total Project: \$80,069

In cooperation with Maine Sea Grant, this project will develop a viable licensing model for inter-generational and entry level access to diversified community fishing, and support sustainable small-scale fisheries.

For more information, please visit the NFWF website:

http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Media_Center&TEMPLATE=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=25008