

Meeting the Moment: Pillar 3

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Never before in the 90-year history of the National Wildlife Federation have the stakes been as high as they are today.

To protect the future health of wildlife, people, and the planet, the world must make significant progress by 2030. This urgency inspires the ambitious roadmap for action in the Federation's 2024–2030 Strategic Plan.

Building on our track record of implementing trusted, science-based solutions to address the impacts of climate change, building partnerships that inspire collaboration, and uniting all Americans to protect and preserve wildlife and wild places, we will achieve transformational change.

The National Wildlife Federation Strategic Plan has defined three key pillars:

1. Wildlife Recovery and Habitat Restoration
2. Climate Solutions and Clean Energy
- 3. Environmental Justice and Resilient Communities**

*Ensuring Wildlife, People,
and the Planet Thrive*

About

Pillar 3

Amplify the voices of marginalized communities to build and support an unstoppable movement that secures clean water, clean air, thriving communities, wildlife, and ecosystems for all.

Why It Matters

Environmental inequities have disproportionately harmed underserved and tribal communities for decades. Wildlife habitats that ensure clean air, water, and food sources have been systematically destroyed; and lack of resources to support restoration and protection are limited.

We partner with frontline community leaders to understand their needs and approach to resolve issues; and with tribal communities, who have been stewarding our lands for generations, to learn about traditional conservation practices that can help preserve and restore wild places.

Our Strategies

- Develop the next generation of conservationists through place-based education
- Implement sustainable, nature-based solutions
- Co-create and advance policy and programs
- Co-develop funding approaches
- Expand partnerships for environmental justice

STRATEGY SPOTLIGHT

RESILIENT SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES (RiSC)

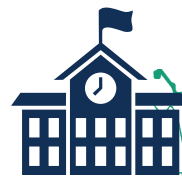
An award-winning climate and resilience education program for middle and high school students, and teachers in frontline communities that offers curriculum resources and field trip experiences focused on *climate science, climate impacts, climate justice, and resilience solutions.*



EMILY FANO

Why Does it Matter?

- RiSC increases climate literacy by teaching students and educators about local climate impacts and structural inequalities in their communities.
- RiSC field trips connect students to natural areas — from prairies and wetlands to shoreline and beaches — that they would not otherwise have access to.
- RiSC facilitates partnerships between secondary schools, colleges, community leaders, and local organizations to advance real-world learning and strengthen multisectoral and multigenerational collaborations.
- RiSC engages students and educators in habitat restoration projects that improve the climate resilience of their communities.
- RiSC empowers students to become change agents and consider future career and volunteer opportunities in conservation.



8,800
Students &
intergenerational
volunteers

78

Schools participating
in hands-on education

61,300

Dune grasses
planted in Coney
Island Creek Park

12.25

Acres restored to
improve climate
resilience, reduce
flooding, and slow
the rate of erosion

600

Trees planted



To learn more, please contact:

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**NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION**