



NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
PRESS RELEASE
DATE: JULY 22, 2026



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) Honored with
2026 Impact Award from the National Association of Development
Organizations**

JACKSONVILLE, FL — The NEFRC has recently been recognized with a 2026 Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) for the Regional Resiliency Action Plan and the Northeast Florida Shrimping Market Study.

Presented annually, the NADO Impact Awards honor regional development organizations and their partners for strengthening communities, building regional resilience, and enhancing local economies through creative approaches to economic and community development. NADO is a Washington, DC-based membership association of regional development organizations that promotes programs and policies that strengthen local governments, communities, and economies.

This year's cohort included 94 impactful projects led by 58 organizations across 20 states. These award-winning efforts will be recognized during NADO's 2026 Annual Training Conference, to be held this coming October in Reno, Nevada. All selected projects are featured in an interactive StoryMap that showcases summaries, images, and key partners. The map is available at <https://www.nado.org/2026-impact-award-recipients/>.

"Each year, the Impact Awards celebrate the remarkable work being done by regional development organizations to strengthen communities and improve quality of life," said 2025-2026 NADO President Matthew Dolge, Executive Director of the Piedmont Triad Regional Council in North Carolina. "This year's honorees demonstrate how strategic leadership, strong partnerships, and a shared commitment to progress can create meaningful and lasting benefits across the country."

The Impact Awards are presented in memory of Aliceann Wohlbruck, NADO's first executive director, who was a lifelong advocate for regional solutions and rural economic development.

About the Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC):

The Northeast Florida Regional Council is a multi-county regional planning agency serving Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties. Through collaboration, planning, and technical assistance, the NEFRC supports local governments in building a stronger, more resilient Northeast Florida.

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