



NFWF

Northeast Forests and Rivers Fund

NFWF CONTACTS

Amanda Bassow

Director,
Northeastern Regional Office
amanda.bassow@nfwf.org
202-857-0166

John Wright

Manager,
Northeastern Regional Office
john.wright@nfwf.org
201-595-2478

PARTNERS

- Avangrid Foundation
- Zoetis Foundation
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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



Brook trout

BACKGROUND

The Northeast Forests and Rivers Fund is dedicated to restoring and sustaining healthy forests and rivers that provide habitat for diverse native bird and freshwater fish populations in the New England states, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, plus the Lake Champlain, Saint Lawrence River, Saranac River and Upper Hudson watersheds in New York. This program annually awards competitive grants ranging from \$75,000 to \$300,000 each.

From 2015 through 2023, the program has awarded over \$12.8 million in grant funds, matched by over \$22.7 million from grantees for a total conservation impact of more than \$35.5 million, to 96 grants that will restore early successional and mature forest habitat, modify and replace barriers to fish movement, restore riparian and instream habitat, and engage hundreds of volunteers in forest habitat restoration and stream connectivity projects.

LEGEND

- NEFRF program footprint
- Awarded projects



(continued)



Wood turtle

These projects are expected to:

- Open 1,271 miles of streams for eastern brook trout and river herring through modification or replacement of 168 barriers to fish passage
- Restore 5,663 acres of young forest habitat for New England cottontail and American woodcock
- Restore 9,662 acres of mature forest habitat for black-throated blue warbler and wood thrush
- Engage 2,675 volunteers in on-the-ground conservation

Funding for the Northeast Forests and Rivers Fund is provided by the Avangrid Foundation, the Zoetis Foundation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- **Restore Stream and Riparian Habitats** - improve the quality and connectivity of stream and riparian habitats to enhance the long-term persistence of native

species, with a focus on improving habitat for wood turtle, river herring, Atlantic salmon and eastern brook trout.

- **Improve Upland Forest Health** - enhance age and structural diversity that demonstrates improved forest conditions for native wildlife, with a focus on improving habitat for golden-winged warbler and New England cottontail.
- **Increase Grassland Bird Habitat** - Invest in management of hayfields to allow for successful breeding of grassland birds, with a specific focus on habitat for bobolink.

The fund's investments are targeted to contiguous forest blocks of at least 5,000 acres across New England and eastern New York that use a range of forest management practices to create a diversity of age and structure for native bird species, and where populations of Atlantic salmon, brook trout and river herring can most benefit from removal of barriers that impede fish passage.