



# NFWF

## Cumberland Plateau 2019 Grant Slate

### NFWF CONTACTS

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### PARTNERS

- Altria Group
- American Forest Foundation
- International Paper
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



Henslow's sparrow

### ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds. Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

### NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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### OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), Altria, American Forest Foundation, International Paper, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service announced the 2019 grant awards for Cumberland Plateau Stewardship Fund projects. Seven new or continuing freshwater and forest restoration grants totaling \$1.3 million were awarded, leveraging \$1.3 million in grantee matching contributions and generating a total conservation impact of \$2.6 million.

The Cumberland Plateau Stewardship Fund restores native forests to conditions that will improve associated wildlife species and the health of freshwater systems while advancing strategies to support working forests. Priority areas include:

- Establishing shortleaf pine
- Enhancing and maintaining existing shortleaf pine ecosystems
- Restoring and enhancing riparian forests and watersheds to support aquatic species
- Expanding and coordinating technical assistance and outreach
- Conservation easements

*(continued)*

**Increasing Prescribed Fire Delivery and Shortleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration in the Cumberland Plateau (KY, TN)**

Grantee: The Forest Stewards Guild  
 Grant Award: ..... \$200,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$200,788  
**Total Amount:..... \$400,788**

Increase prescribed fire delivery and shortleaf pine ecosystem restoration in the Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee and Kentucky to benefit songbirds such as prairie warbler and pine warbler, and game species such as wild turkey. Project will engage public and private landowners through outreach and technical assistance to restore and enhance more than 5,400 acres of shortleaf pine forests, including more than 4,000 acres of prescribed burning.

**Improving Water Quality through Soil Health Best Management Practices in Critical Tennessee Habitats**

Grantee: Cumberland River Compact  
 Grant Award: ..... \$250,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$250,000  
**Total Amount:..... \$500,000**

Increase the number of farms and field-grown nurseries implementing soil health best management practices within high-priority Tennessee watersheds to restore water quality and wildlife habitat. Project will engage 500 farmers and growers through marketing, field days and technical assistance, and will implement practices such as no-till and cover crops on 450 acres, benefitting at-risk fish species such as the barrens darter and bird species such as Henslow’s sparrow and prairie warbler.

**Restoring Riparian and Aquatic Habitats on Private Lands in the Paint Rock River Watershed (AL)**

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy  
 Grant Award: ..... \$100,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$100,000  
**Total Amount:..... \$200,000**

Restore and enhance riparian forests and in-stream habitat on private lands in the Paint Rock River watershed in Alabama to benefit numerous at-risk freshwater species, including freshwater mussels and fish such as the Alabama lampmussel and spotfin chub. Project will restore 2 miles of in-stream and riparian habitat through streambank stabilization and planting native vegetation.

**Expanding Prescribed Fire Implementation on the Cumberland Plateau (TN)**

Grantee: Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry  
 Grant Award: ..... \$200,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$200,000  
**Total Amount:..... \$400,000**

Expand prescribed burning on privately owned shortleaf

pine forests in the Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee to benefit birds such as Bachman’s sparrow, prairie warbler and northern bobwhite. Project will support a prescribed fire strike team that will implement more than 1,500 acres of prescribed burning.

**Restoring Eastern Hellbender Habitat on Private Lands in Tennessee**

Grantee: Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy  
 Grant Award: ..... \$100,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$100,000  
**Total Amount:..... \$200,000**

Restore forested riparian buffers and implement additional conservation practices on private agricultural lands in Tennessee to improve habitat for the eastern hellbender, the largest species of aquatic salamander in North America. Project will restore 7 acres of riparian habitat through tree plantings, livestock exclusion fencing and stream bank stabilization.

**Improving Habitat for At-Risk Species in the Alabama Cumberlands - III**

Grantee: Alabama Forestry Foundation  
 Grant Award: ..... \$300,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$300,000  
**Total Amount:..... \$600,000**

Restore riparian and upland forests on private lands in north Alabama benefitting at-risk freshwater mussels, such as the Cumberland moccasinshell and fish such as the blueface darter. Project will reach 500 private landowners through strategic marketing, field days and demonstrations and restore more than 160 acres of riparian forest along 24 miles of stream.

**Shortleaf Pine Restoration in the Alabama Cumberlands - II**

Grantee: Alabama Forestry Foundation  
 Grant Award: ..... \$150,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$150,000  
**Total Amount:..... \$300,000**

Restore and enhance shortleaf pine habitat on public and private lands in northern Alabama, benefitting northern bobwhite, Bachman’s sparrow and other forest and grassland dependent birds. Project will establish 400 acres of shortleaf pine and enhance an additional 2,200 acres of existing shortleaf pine habitat with prescribed burning and invasive species removal.