



# Acres for America

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## PARTNER



## 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](http://www.nfwf.org)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Herd of elk in West Virginia

## OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and Walmart announced its 19th year of funding through the Acres for America program, one of the most effective public-private partnerships in the history of U.S. land conservation efforts. Ten new grants totaling \$5.6 million were awarded to projects in California, Delaware, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Oklahoma, Utah and Virginia toward the protection of more than 148,000 acres. These ten awards will leverage an additional \$107.3 million in matching contributions, creating a total conservation impact of \$112.9 million.

Acres for America is NFWF's premier land conservation program. Since 2005, NFWF and Walmart have supported conserving critical habitats for birds, fish, plants and wildlife; connecting existing protected lands to unify wild places and protected migration routes; providing access for people to enjoy the outdoors; and safeguarding the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching and recreation.

Since its inception, Acres for America has funded 119 projects in 47 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico to permanently protect 2.1 million acres — far surpassing its original goal of 100,000 acres.

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Lesser prairie chickens

**Conserving Rock Hill Farm to Protect Wildlife and Connectivity in White Clay Creek State Farm (DE)**

Grantee: The Conservation Fund

Grant Amount:..... \$500,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$26,000,000  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$26,500,000

Acquire Rocky Hill Farm, a 286-acre inholding in White Clay Creek State Park. Project will protect mature woodlands, open fields and streams that provide habitat for nesting and migratory birds. Project will provide connectivity to the White Clay Creek Preserve in Pennsylvania and nearby conserved lands, protect the water quality of two streams that feed into the nationally designated Wild and Scenic White Clay Creek and provide recreational opportunities in one of the state's most heavily used parks.

**Conserving the Sandhills Ranch to Benefit Native Rangeland Habitat (KS)**

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$750,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$1,501,600  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$2,251,600

Conserve 10,086 acre Sandhills Ranch, which is the largest remaining ranch along the Arkansas River. Project will create a permanent anchor of high-quality wildlife habitat for a broad range of wildlife such as mule and whitetail deer, as well as a variety of grassland birds including the recent Endangered Species Act-listed lesser prairie chicken.

**Creating a Buffer to Zion National Park for Wildlife Habitat and Recreation Benefit (UT)**

Grantee: The Conservation Fund

Grant Amount:..... \$507,300  
 Matching Funds:..... \$3,644,300  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$4,151,600

Conserve 777 acres adjacent to Zion National Park to create a buffer for the park. Project will protect the park's northern boundary from development, provide crucial habitat for listed species, maintain conditions for healthy forests and protect one of the finger canyon cliffs, which offers recreational opportunities for canyoneering.

**Protecting Busseron Creek and Establishing a New Fish and Wildlife Area (IN)**

Grantee: The Conservation Fund, A Nonprofit Corporation

Grant Amount:..... \$600,000  
 Matching Funds:..... \$14,700,000  
 Total Project Amount:..... \$15,300,000

Acquire 4,000 acres for a future State Fish and Wildlife Area (FWA) along Busseron Creek. Project will reduce critical threats to the 90+ Species of Greatest Conservation Need that rely on this region of Indiana, provide important buffer to critical national security facilities, enable ecosystem management at scale by preventing fragmentation, and provide public access to thousands of new acres for popular recreational activities, including bird watching, foraging and hunting.

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**Protecting and Enhancing Katahdin Woods (ME)**

Grantee: Trust for Public Land

Grant Amount:..... \$550,000

Matching Funds:..... \$29,034,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$29,584,000

Protect more than 31,000 acres of forestland in the Katahdin Region of Maine. Most of the land will be returned to the Penobscot Nation in the heart of their ancestral homelands. The project will also create much needed public access to Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument, enhance local outdoor recreation opportunities, and provide cultural and economic benefits to Tribal members and surrounding towns.

**Protecting Michigamme Highlands for Sustainable Forest Management, Public Access and Habitat (MI)**

Grantee: Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Grant Amount:..... \$550,000

Matching Funds:..... \$15,525,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$16,075,000

Acquire a working forest conservation easement over 73,000 acres of vast forests, remote lakes, trout streams, Michigan's highest elevation, moose-inhabited swamps and



Whitetailed deer | Credit: Michigan Department of Natural Resources

the most climate resilient landscape in Michigan. Project will prevent fragmentation, ensure sustainable forest management, offer full public recreational motorized and non-motorized access, and protect habitat for a variety of game and non-game species, including both federal and state listed threatened and endangered species.

**Preserving the Oklahoma Crosstimbers for the Community and Wildlife Habitat (OK)**

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$750,000

Matching Funds:..... \$5,000,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$5,750,000

Acquire 12,345 acres near Tulsa, protecting the Cross timbers and Southern Tallgrass Prairie Ecosystem (CSTP). Project will create 19,653 acres of continuous CSTP habitat, 22 miles of continuous stream protection and provide recreational and hunting access for the surrounding community.

**Protecting Redwood Timberland to Create a Buffer to Redwood National Park (CA)**

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land

Grant Amount:..... \$700,000

Matching Funds:..... \$5,850,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$6,550,000

Establish a conservation easement on 11,070 acres of mature redwood timberland adjacent to Redwood National Park. Project will create a buffer to the national park and prevent future development and fragmentation of the highly trafficked area.

**Protecting a Working Ranch for the Benefit of Agricultural Production and Wildlife Migration (UT)**

Grantee: Summit Land Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$250,000

Matching Funds:..... \$3,036,900

Total Project Amount:..... \$3,286,900

Protect Wright Echo Canyon Ranch, a 4,292-acre working ranch in rural Summit County, Utah. Project will prevent development and provide important habitat for big game, raptors, protected migratory bird species, and threatened species including greater sage-grouse and Bonneville cutthroat trout.

**Reacquiring Ancestral Lands at Fones Cliff to Restore Wildlife Habitat, Phase III (VA)**

Grantee: Rappahannock Tribe

Grant Amount:..... \$500,000

Matching Funds:..... \$3,000,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$3,500,000

Acquire and protect 964 acres at Fones Cliffs for the benefit of wildlife habitat and public access. Project will increase connectivity and ecological value of protected lands, protect irreplaceable archeological resources, migratory bird habitat, and nesting, roosting, and migration habitat for bald eagles.