



NFWF

Longleaf Stewardship Fund 2018 Grant Slate

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PARTNERS

- Altria Group
- American Forest Foundation
- International Paper
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Orton Foundation (affiliate of the Moore Charitable Foundation)
- Southern Company
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

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.

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Red-cockaded woodpecker

OVERVIEW

In 2018, the Longleaf Stewardship Fund awarded more than \$6.5 million in funding to twenty-eight projects with a grantee match of \$7.9 million, for a total conservation impact of more than \$14.4 million. The program's overarching goal is to restore the longleaf pine ecosystem through collaborative and result-oriented actions that contribute to the restoration goals of the America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative, benefiting species including red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise, Bachman's sparrow and northern bobwhite quail.

The Longleaf Stewardship Fund is a landmark public-private partnership supported with federal funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and private funding from Altria Group, American Forest Foundation, International Paper, Southern Company and the Orton Foundation, an affiliate of The Moore Charitable Foundation.

Pineywoods Longleaf Restoration (LA) - VI

Grantee: National Wild Turkey Federation

Grant Award:\$298,952

Matching Funds:\$327,438

Total Amount: **\$626,390**

Establish and enhance 7,150 acres of longleaf pine in a six-parish West-Central Louisiana Ecosystem Partnership Conservation Area anchored by the Fort Polk/Kisatchie National

(continued)

Forest Significant Geographic Area. Project will provide financial assistance to plant longleaf and enhance existing habitat with prescribed fire, as well as support landowner outreach and technical assistance through field days and development of forest management plans.

Longleaf Restoration in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership Landscape (AL, FL) - IV

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance
 Grant Award:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$581,551
Total Amount: \$881,551

Restore and maintain 112,958 acres of longleaf pine habitat within the western panhandle of Florida and southern Alabama through plantings, prescribed fire, removal of competing hardwoods, and invasive species control. Recovery of several rare species also will be prioritized, including the red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise, eastern indigo snake and reticulated flatwoods salamander.



Louisiana pine snake | Credit: USFWS

Fort Stewart/Altamaha Longleaf Restoration Partnership (GA) - IV

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance
 Grant Award:\$250,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$641,700
Total Amount: \$891,700

Establish and enhance 11,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat in the Fort Stewart/Altamaha Significant Geographic Area of Georgia. Project will restore longleaf habitat on public and private lands, including several properties recently acquired to restore populations of gopher tortoise, a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Accelerating Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration on the Fall Line (GA, AL) - III

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy - Georgia Chapter
 Grant Award:\$275,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$953,134
Total Amount: \$1,228,134

Accelerate longleaf pine restoration and conservation on more than 29,000 acres of public and private land in west Georgia and east Alabama. Outcomes include planting longleaf on 137 acres and implementing prescribed fire on 29,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat, focusing on properties buffering Fort Benning, as well as high-priority state and privately owned lands.

Facilitating Longleaf Conservation in the Longleaf Ridge Significant Geographic Area (TX) - IV

Grantee: Texas A&M Forest Service
 Grant Award:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$300,000
Total Amount: \$600,000

Establish 600 acres of longleaf pine and enhance an additional 4,150 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire and removal of mid-story hardwoods on private lands in east Texas. Targeted technical assistance will engage small family forest owners in conservation programs that promote stewardship planning, prescribed burning, and longleaf restoration and enhancement, benefitting Bachman’s sparrow, Louisiana pine snake, northern bobwhite quail and numerous other longleaf and grassland-dependent species.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker Conservation Project on State and Private Lands (SC)

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance
 Grant Award:\$117,475
 Matching Funds:.....\$94,560
Total Amount: \$212,035

Translocate 20 red-cockaded woodpeckers from the Francis Marion National Forest to state and federal lands and private properties enrolled in the S.C. Department of Natural Resources safe harbor program in South Carolina’s coastal plain. Project will improve the demographic and genetic health of this endangered species, supporting the objectives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s red-cockaded woodpecker recovery plan.

Restoring Wildlife Habitat and Longleaf Pine on Private Lands in Georgia

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation
 Grant Award:\$140,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$140,000
Total Amount: \$280,000

Engage 40 private landowners to establish and enhance

2,700 acres of longleaf pine habitat in Georgia. Project will support a wildlife biologist position that will provide technical assistance to private landowners, develop forest management plans, and connect landowners with Farm Bill programs and other sources of financial assistance to implement conservation practices benefitting bobwhite quail and other longleaf and grassland-associated wildlife.

Engaging Working Forest Landowners, Building Stakeholder Collaboration & Developing Solutions (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TX, VA) - II

Grantee: Forest Landowners Association

Grant Award:\$145,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$150,000
Total Amount: \$295,000

Engage large family forest landowners in longleaf restoration and at-risk species conservation throughout the historic range of the longleaf pine. Project will assist landowners with the establishment and enhancement of at least 2,000 acres of longleaf pine, develop regulatory predictability tools for at-risk species endemic to the longleaf ecosystem, reducing uncertainty for landowners wishing to manage for longleaf habitat conditions on their lands, and explore market-based solutions to address the economic constraints to large-scale longleaf restoration on private lands.

Longleaf Pine Restoration in Central Florida

Grantee: FL DEP Division Recreation and Parks

Grant Award:\$100,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$100,000
Total Amount: \$200,000

Establish and enhance 1,100 acres of longleaf pine habitat on four state parks and build partnership capacity for landscape-scale longleaf restoration in west-central Florida. Project will plant 300 acres of longleaf pine and native groundcover species and remove invasive plants and implement prescribed burning on an additional 1,000 acres of existing longleaf stands, benefiting gopher tortoises and other at-risk species.

Accelerating At-risk Species Recovery in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership Landscape (AL, FL)

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance

Grant Award:\$620,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$151,463
Total Amount: \$771,463

Accelerate recovery of declining and at-risk species, including bobwhite quail, gopher tortoise and reticulated flatwoods salamander within the western panhandle of Florida and southern Alabama. Project will support capacity to implement species-specific management and monitoring, such as captive rearing of salamanders and translocation



Gopher tortoise

of gopher tortoises, as well as development of a National Bobwhite Quail Initiative Focal Area to support bobwhite quail habitat restoration and recovery.

Onslow Bight Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration Project (NC) - IV

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy - North Carolina Chapter
 Grant Award:\$266,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$400,000
Total Amount: \$666,000

Restore and enhance more than 30,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat on priority conservation lands within the Onslow Bight landscape in eastern North Carolina. Project will establish 249 acres of longleaf pine and support a seasonal burn crew to implement prescribed fire on at least 30,000 acres of existing longleaf around Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and other public and private lands, improving habitat for Bachman’s sparrow, red-cockaded woodpecker and the Carolina gopher frog.

North Carolina Sandhills Longleaf Restoration Task Force - IV

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy - North Carolina Chapter
 Grant Award:\$259,500
 Matching Funds:.....\$375,848
Total Amount: \$635,348

Establish longleaf pine habitat and increase the capacity of land managers to enhance habitat quality through a seasonal

burn crew and burn contractors within the Sandhills region of North Carolina, which is anchored by Fort Bragg and the Sandhills Game Lands. Project will establish 410 acres of longleaf pine and enhance an additional 30,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire, benefitting the federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker and other at-risk species.

Improving Longleaf Habitat for At-risk Species in Southwest Georgia

Grantee: Georgia Forestry Commission
 Grant Award:\$150,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$150,000
Total Amount: \$300,000

Engage family forest owners in southwest Georgia to implement forest practices that improve habitat for at-risk wildlife, including gopher tortoises and eastern indigo snakes. Partners will host management-focused classes and events to educate landowners, and will provide technical and financial assistance for landowners to establish and enhance more than 2,500 acres of longleaf pine habitat.

Longleaf Pine and Wildlife Habitat Restoration on Alabama Private Lands - V

Grantee: Alabama Wildlife Federation
 Grant Award:\$115,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$115,000
Total Amount: \$230,000

Restore and enhance 5,000 acres of longleaf pine on private lands within priority counties for longleaf pine and northern bobwhite quail restoration in Alabama. Project will engage at least 100 private landowners through targeted outreach and technical assistance and assist landowners with identifying eligible incentive programs for establishing and managing longleaf pine and associated wildlife habitat.

South Lowcountry-ACE Basin Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration Partnership (SC) - V

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance
 Grant Award:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$304,100
Total Amount: \$604,100

Establish 500 acres of longleaf pine and enhance an additional 2,500 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire and mid-story hardwood removal on private lands within the South-Lowcountry and ACE Basin in South Carolina. Project will restore populations of gopher tortoises by hatching and fostering up to 250 eggs for release on restored habitat and bolster red-cockaded woodpecker recovery efforts by installing at least 25 artificial nest boxes.



Swainson's warbler | Credit: Alan Schmierer

Strategic Longleaf Restoration on Private Lands in Florida

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation
 Grant Award:\$150,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$150,000
Total Amount: \$300,000

Provide technical assistance to private forest owners to restore longleaf pine in priority areas in Florida. Project will assist private landowners with developing comprehensive management plans, promote Farm Bill programs, teach longleaf pine management, and increase participation in certification programs leading to restoration and enhancement of 3,900 acres of longleaf pine habitat.

Improving Forest Habitat for At-risk Species in North Carolina

Grantee: North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
 Grant Award:\$639,053
 Matching Funds:.....\$714,385
Total Amount: \$1,353,438

Increase capacity and partner coordination for private landowner outreach to restore and enhance longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood habitats on family forest lands in southeastern North Carolina. Project will engage 300 private landowners to restore and enhance 8,250 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood habitats benefiting numerous declining and at-risk, forest-dependent species, including bobwhite quail, Swainson's warbler and gopher frog.



Bobwhite quail

Longleaf Pine Restoration and Management in the Okefenokee/Osceola Landscape (GA, FL) - II

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy - Georgia Chapter
 Grant Award:\$275,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$300,600
Total Amount: \$575,600

Restore longleaf pine on family forest lands damaged by the West Mims wildfire in south Georgia and northeast Florida. Project will establish 2,000 acres of longleaf pine on fire-impacted lands and reduce fuel loads on 50,000 acres of existing longleaf forests through thinnings and prescribed burns, reducing the likelihood of future catastrophic wildfires.

Sandhills Longleaf Pine Conservation Partnership (SC) - VI

Grantee: Chesterfield County Soil and Water Conservation District
 Grant Award:\$299,974
 Matching Funds:.....\$347,390
Total Amount: \$647,364

Restore and enhance 1,638 acres of longleaf pine on private and public lands through longleaf plantings, mid-story hardwood removal, and prescribed fire. Project will expand upon a geospatial land-use inventory to help prioritize future restoration efforts, as well as a native understory seed collection effort, establishing 25 acres of native understory plants that will benefit early successional and grassland-dependent species, such as bobwhite quail and Bachman’s sparrow.

Talladega Mountains Longleaf Pine Restoration (AL, GA) - III

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy - Alabama Chapter
 Grant Award:\$179,989
 Matching Funds:.....\$179,989
Total Amount: \$359,978

Increase prescribed fire capacity through the addition of a seasonal burn crew in east-central Alabama and west Georgia. Project will support additional burning and montane longleaf pine habitat restoration on the Talladega National Forest and other priority public and private lands, benefitting red-cockaded woodpecker, Bachman’s sparrow and other longleaf-dependent species.

Apalachicola Longleaf Restoration Initiative (FL, GA) - VI

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy - Florida Chapter
 Grant Award:\$280,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$360,000
Total Amount: \$640,000

Establish 740 acres of longleaf pine and enhance an additional 30,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat on the Apalachicola National Forest and other high-priority public and private lands within the eastern panhandle of Florida and southwest Georgia. Project will improve habitat for numerous at-risk species and will support the recovery of the federally threatened eastern indigo snake through captive breeding and release on restored longleaf pine habitat.

**Pee Dee River-Winyah Bay
Forest Restoration Partnership (SC)**

Grantee: National Audubon Society
 Grant Award:\$149,998
 Matching Funds:.....\$149,998
Total Amount: \$299,996

Engage at least 900 family forest landowners in sustainable management of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood habitats to benefit at-risk species in the Pee Dee River-Winyah Bay landscape. Project will develop management plans, assist with tree farm certification and connect landowners with resource management professionals to establish and enhance 6,000 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood forest habitat.

**Longleaf Restoration in the Sewee Longleaf
Conservation Cooperative Landscape (SC)**

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance
 Grant Award:\$150,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$150,000
Total Amount: \$300,000

Provide public and private landowner outreach and financial assistance for longleaf establishment, enhancement and management in cooperation with the Sewee Longleaf Conservation Cooperative in South Carolina. Project will engage landowners through two workshops and provide technical and financial assistance to restore and enhance 2,200 acres of longleaf habitat, prioritizing efforts on lands that will benefit at-risk and listed species such as the red-cockaded woodpecker.

**Strategic Prescribed Burn Assistance on Private Lands
in the Longleaf Legacy Landscape (AL, FL, GA)**

Grantee: Tall Timbers Research
 Grant Award:\$100,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$100,000
Total Amount: \$200,000

Build capacity to increase prescribed burning on private lands across the Longleaf Legacy Landscape, a key private-land dominated area in northwest Florida, southwest Georgia and south Alabama. Project will implement a variety of longleaf conservation assistance programs to burn 5,250 acres, prioritize future efforts based on the collection of key fire activity and conservation data, and develop an innovative and integrated outreach program across organizations that will enhance future targeted longleaf restoration and prescribed fire application on private lands.

Ocala Regional Implementation Team (FL) - V

Grantee: Alachua Conservation Trust
 Grant Award:\$240,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$240,000
Total Amount: \$480,000

Restore and enhance more than 6,300 acres of longleaf pine habitat on public and private lands in north-central Florida. Project will expand foraging habitat for red-cockaded woodpeckers on Ocala National Forest, establish longleaf pine on lands buffering Camp Blanding, and increase prescribed fire capacity on private lands through development of a prescribed burn association.

Mississippi Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration

Grantee: Mississippi Land Trust
 Grant Award:\$116,857
 Matching Funds:.....\$131,700
Total Amount: \$248,557

Establish 325 acres of longleaf pine and enhance an additional 4,160 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire in the “Piney Woods” landscape of southern Mississippi. Project will support long-term capacity for prescribed burning by stimulating private prescribed fire contractors, training and assisting private landowners with burns on their own lands, and engaging the forest industry in prescribed fire efforts.

**Improving Habitat for At-risk Species
in Southwest Alabama Longleaf Forests - II**

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

Engage family forest owners through strategic social marketing in southwest Alabama to restore and enhance longleaf forests and improve habitat for at-risk species. Project will engage 450 landowners through outreach events and improve 1,300 acres of longleaf forests through planting, thinning, prescribed burning and invasive species control, benefiting gopher tortoises, eastern hognose snakes and other at-risk species.

Florida Longleaf Pine Restoration Incentives Program

Grantee: Florida Forest Service
 Grant Award:\$150,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$150,000
Total Amount: \$300,000

Provide technical and financial assistance to implement longleaf ecosystem restoration on more than 2,000 acres of private lands within priority areas in Florida. Project will market to landowners to build interest in longleaf restoration, prepare forest management plans to guide longleaf restoration efforts, and provide financial assistance to landowners to offset planting and prescribed burning costs.