



# Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund

## NFWF CONTACTS

**Jonathan Scott**  
 Program Director,  
 Southern Forests  
[jonathan.scott@nfwf.org](mailto:jonathan.scott@nfwf.org)  
 202-595-2609

**Zachary Bernstein**  
 Manager,  
 Southern Forests  
[zachary.bernstein@nfwf.org](mailto:zachary.bernstein@nfwf.org)  
 202-595-2433

**Sarah Vest**  
 Coordinator, Regional Programs  
[sarah.vest@nfwf.org](mailto:sarah.vest@nfwf.org)  
 202-888-1657

## PARTNERS

- Altria Group
- Bezos Earth Fund
- Energy Transfer
- International Paper
- Orton Foundation
- Southern Company
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation 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 6,800 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of more than \$10 billion. NFWF is an equal opportunity provider.

Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)



Eastern indigo snake

## BACKGROUND

Building on nearly a decade of investment to restore vanishing longleaf pine forests in the southeastern United States, in 2012 the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation established the Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund, a landmark public-private partnership to accelerate restoration of the longleaf pine ecosystem. With the combined financial and technical resources of federal agencies — including the U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service — and private funding from Altria Group, Bezos Earth Fund, Energy Transfer, International Paper's Forestland Stewards Partnership, the Orton Foundation (an affiliate of The Moore Charitable Foundation) and Southern Company, the fund is accelerating implementation of America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative's Range-Wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine while advancing the mission objectives of each partner.

Since 2012, the Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund has invested more than \$108 million into projects that will establish more than 300,000 acres of longleaf pine and improve more than 4.4 million acres of existing longleaf habitat and the native species that rely on it. The fund targets investments within "Significant Geographic Areas" anchored by military

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bases and installations, national forests, national wildlife refuges, as well as state and other protected lands to expand, improve and connect existing longleaf habitat to establish large-scale, healthy ecosystems. The fund also supports locally-based partnerships dedicated to restoring longleaf pine and providing technical assistance to private landowners across longleaf pine's historic range. Grant investments seek to achieve specific conservation outcomes, with success tracked to evaluate gains in healthy longleaf forests and the recovery of native wildlife.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals of the Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund are to:

- Establish and enhance longleaf pine forests
- Restore and improve the understory
- Support the recovery of iconic and keystone species
- Increase technical assistance and outreach to private landowners
- Strengthen organizational capacity



### 2024 LONGLEAF LANDSCAPE STEWARDSHIP FUND AWARDS

In 2024, the Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund awarded \$33.5 million in funding to 29 new forest conservation projects and one amendment to an existing project, leveraging \$21.2 million in grantee matching contributions to leverage a total conservation impact of over \$54.7 million. Together, these grants are expected to establish over 71,000 acres of new longleaf pine, and will enhance an additional 400,000 acres through prescribed burning and other practices. Grantees will engage private landowners through workshops, trainings and one-on-one technical assistance to restore and maintain longleaf pine habitat on their lands. These projects will also support species-specific management activities, such as captive breeding and translocation bolstering populations of several wildlife species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, or at-risk of future listing, including the gopher tortoise, red-cockaded woodpecker and eastern indigo snake.

Croatan National Forest