



Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund

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PARTNERS

- Altria Group
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- Energy Transfer
- International Paper
- Orton Foundation
- Southern Company
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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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.

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Bachman's sparrow

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and 10 partners announced the 2024-year round of funding for Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund projects. Twenty-nine new forest conservation grants and one amendment to an existing grant totaling \$33.5 million were awarded. The 30 awards announced leverage \$21.2 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$54.7 million.

The Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund is a landmark public-private partnership that expands, enhances and accelerates longleaf pine conservation across the ecosystem's historical range. The fund supports projects that advance the longleaf pine ecosystem through collaborative and results-oriented actions that contribute to the restoration goals of the America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative.

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Red-cockaded woodpecker

ALABAMA

Expanding and Enhancing Longleaf Restoration on Private Lands through Outreach (AL)

Grantee: Alabama Wildlife Federation
 Grant Amount:..... \$325,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$0
 Total Project Amount:..... \$325,000

Expand the programs to restore longleaf pine, longleaf understory and wildlife habitat on private lands through outreach and technical assistance. Project will hire a Cost Share Specialist to focus on connecting private landowners with Natural Resources Conservation Service incentives who, through strategic outreach, will restore 1,250 acres on private lands.

Restoring Longleaf Pine Habitat for At-Risk Species on Public and Private Lands in South Alabama

Grantee: Alabama Forestry Foundation
 Grant Amount:..... \$267,800
 Matching Funds:..... \$0
 Total Project Amount:..... \$267,800

Engage family forest owners and assist public land managers in Alabama to restore and enhance longleaf forests and improve habitat for at-risk species. Project will support longleaf restoration in national forests, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (NRCS) lands and private lands to support an additional 800 acres of longleaf pine planting, benefiting gopher tortoises and other species found in longleaf forests.

Restoring Longleaf Pine through Private and Public Landowner Collaboration in Alabama

Grantee: Alabama Forestry Foundation
 Grant Amount:..... \$1,500,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$750,000
 Total Project Amount:..... \$2,250,000

Assist private and public landowners in central and south Alabama with restoration, improvement and maintenance of longleaf pine ecosystems to improve habitat for species like northern bobwhite and red-cockaded woodpecker. Project will maintain 18,000 acres of longleaf habitat using prescribed fire, improve 1,400 acres through the treatment of nonnative invasive species, and plant longleaf pine on 4,000 acres of public, family and institutional private lands.

FLORIDA

Accelerating Sustainable Longleaf Pine Conservation Practices on Private Lands in North Florida

Grantee: Florida Conservation Group
 Grant Amount:..... \$2,400,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$442,500
 Total Project Amount:..... \$ 2,842,500

Provide technical assistance to private landowners in north and central Florida to develop forest management plans and assist with implementing longleaf pine restoration and management practices on more than 10,000 acres. Project will promote and implement NRCS financial assistance programs to support prescribed burning, longleaf plantings and other practices to improve habitat for gopher tortoises, northern bobwhites and other longleaf-dependent species.

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GEORGIA**Advancing Climate-Resilient Longleaf Restoration on Private Lands through Technical Assistance (GA)**

Grantee: Georgia Forestry Foundation

Grant Amount:..... \$587,600

Matching Funds:..... \$250,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$837,600

Provide technical assistance to private landowners, including historically underserved landowners to implement climate-smart longleaf forestry practices and support forest resilience and wildlife outcomes in Georgia. Project will engage 2,000 landowners and help them access Farm Bill and other financial assistance programs to restore and improve 10,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat benefiting species such as northern bobwhite and gopher tortoise.

Restoring Longleaf Pine and Bottomland Hardwood Habitats on Private Lands in South Georgia

Grantee: Georgia Forestry Commission

Grant Amount:..... \$1,500,000

Matching Funds:..... \$1,500,000

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

Engage family forest landowners, including historically underserved landowners, within a 75-county area in south Georgia to restore or improve more than 27,000 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood habitats through planting, prescribed burning and forest stand improvements. Project will benefit many at-risk wildlife species, including gopher tortoise, eastern indigo snake and northern bobwhite.

Restoring Longleaf Pine Habitat on Private Lands in Georgia

Grantee: Georgia Wildlife Federation

Grant Amount:..... \$1,000,000

Matching Funds:..... \$1,000,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$2,000,000

Identify and engage at least 150 landowners to provide one-on-one wildlife and forestry technical assistance to establish and enhance longleaf pine habitat and bottomland hardwoods on private lands in Georgia. Project will use various model forests and media outlets to reach, educate and inform 6,000 people, hire biologists to increase technical assistance and outreach, and use cost-share to contribute to on-the-ground longleaf restoration.

LOUISIANA**Expanding Longleaf Restoration in Louisiana through Outreach and Technical Assistance**

Grantee: Land Trust for Louisiana

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

Matching Funds:..... \$1,400,500

Total Project Amount:..... \$2,150,500

Implement longleaf restoration projects in southeast Louisiana to expand and improve longleaf pine habitat benefiting species such as gopher tortoise, Bachman's

sparrow and northern bobwhite. Project will plant 643 acres of longleaf pine, assist private landowners with prescribed burning and other forest management practices on 3,700 acres of existing longleaf pine habitat, and protect 240 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood habitat with voluntary conservation easements.

Priority Species Conservation Through Longleaf Pine Restoration in Western Louisiana

Grantee: American Bird Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$975,000

Matching Funds:..... \$403,500

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,378,500

Restore and enhance 1,900 acres of private lands in west-central Louisiana through longleaf plantings and prescribed burning, benefiting at-risk species including Bachman's sparrow and Louisiana pine snake. Project will develop a conservation plan to prioritize landowner outreach and restoration efforts, assist private landowners with prescribed burning on their lands, and pilot a grassland bird working group to address population declines and set a path for species recovery.

MISSISSIPPI**Engaging Private Landowners in Coastal Mississippi to Restore and Enhance Longleaf Pine Habitat**

Grantee: Wildlife Mississippi

Grant Amount:..... \$325,000

Matching Funds:..... \$235,800

Total Project Amount:..... \$560,800

Provide technical assistance to 150 private landowners to restore and enhance longleaf pine habitat in coastal Mississippi. Project will assist landowners with accessing Farm Bill, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other financial assistance to support longleaf pine planting, hazardous fuel reduction, prescribed burning, invasive species control and voluntary conservation easements on 7,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat benefiting gopher tortoises and other at-risk and game species.

Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration and Prescribed Fire on Private Lands in South Mississippi

Grantee: Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain

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

Matching Funds:..... \$25,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$525,000

Engage private landowners in south Mississippi through outreach and technical assistance to support longleaf pine restoration on private lands. Project will hold outreach and education sessions for landowners and support a prescribed burn team to assist private landowners with 5,000 acres of prescribed burns and 500 acres of invasive species management benefiting gopher tortoises, northern bobwhites and other longleaf pine and fire-dependent species.

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NORTH CAROLINA**North Carolina Sandhills Longleaf Restoration and Management**

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount: \$722,300

Matching Funds: \$722,300

Total Project Amount: \$1,444,600

Restore longleaf pine on private lands by engaging landowners in cost share programs and implementing climate-smart agricultural practices. Project will restore 1,083 acres of longleaf, burn 60,623 acres, enhance 2,870 acres of habitat through groundcover planting and mechanical and chemical treatments, and protect 2,000 acres.

Restoring and Enhancing Longleaf Pine Habitat in Eastern North Carolina

Grantee: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$555,800

Total Project Amount: \$1,555,800

Restore and enhance 29,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat in eastern North Carolina, improving habitat for red-cockaded woodpeckers, Bachman's sparrows and northern bobwhites. Project will support longleaf plantings, removal of competing pine and hardwood trees, and prescribed burning, including prescribed burn specialists to write burn plans, assist landowners with controlled burns and with applying for financial assistance, and train landowners to become certified prescribed burners.

SOUTH CAROLINA**Restoring and Enhancing Longleaf Pine Habitat in the South Carolina Sandhills**

Grantee: Chesterfield County Soil and Water Conservation District

Grant Amount: \$600,000

Matching Funds: \$383,000

Total Project Amount: \$983,000

Restore 54 acres of longleaf pine habitat on the Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge and engage 500 private landowners to restore, improve and protect more than 4,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat in the South Carolina Sandhills region. Project will help landowners develop forest management plans, implement longleaf plantings and prescribed burning, and protect privately owned forests with voluntary conservation easements, benefiting wild turkeys and northern bobwhites.

TEXAS**Advancing Longleaf Pine Restoration on Private, Tribal and Public Lands in East Texas**

Grantee: Texas A&M Forest Service

Grant Amount: \$825,000

Matching Funds: \$703,900

Total Project Amount: \$1,528,900

Restore, enhance and conserve 4,500 acres of longleaf pine

and bottomland hardwood forest habitats on public, private and tribal lands in East Texas. Project will coordinate strategic planning, education, outreach, and technical and financial assistance to landowners to support longleaf pine plantings, prescribed burning and removal of competing hardwoods and other vegetation to improve habitat for at-risk and game species, such as red-cockaded woodpecker, Louisiana pine snake and wild turkey.

MULTIPLE STATES**Advancing Climate-Resilient Longleaf Restoration and Conservation on Private Lands (AL, GA)**

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance

Grant Amount: \$1,290,000

Matching Funds: \$186,300

Total Project Amount: \$1,476,300

Implement climate-smart longleaf pine forestry practices on private lands in Alabama and Georgia, benefiting wildlife including the red-cockaded woodpecker, Bachman's sparrow, songbirds and other wildlife. Project will plant 550,000 longleaf pine seedlings on 1,000 acres, conduct prescribed burning on 1,500 acres, complete improved habitat management on 1,060 acres and support seed orchard enhancements to increase availability of longleaf pine seed.

Engaging Large-Scale Forest Landowners in Species Conservation and Longleaf Pine Restoration on Private Lands (AL, FL, GA, MS, SC)

Grantee: Forest Landowners Association

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$725,000

Total Project Amount: \$1,725,000

Engage large-scale private landowners across the Southeast in longleaf pine restoration efforts by providing financial assistance to plant longleaf pine and improving coordination with longleaf seedling nurseries to ensure adequate seedling supplies. Project will contact 2,000 private landowners through targeted outreach and plant 3,000 acres of longleaf pine, expanding habitat for northern bobwhite and other forest and grassland species.

Engaging Private Landowners in Adopting Climate Smart Longleaf Pine Restoration Practices (AL, GA)

Grantee: Pheasants Forever

Grant Amount: \$2,300,000

Matching Funds: \$2,000,000

Total Project Amount: \$4,300,000

Engage private landowners through outreach, education and technical assistance about available climate-smart forestry practices to restore and enhance longleaf pine habitat in Alabama and Georgia. Project will host landowner workshops, field days and "learn to burn" clinics and assist private landowners with implementing climate-smart forestry practices to restore and improve 75,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat benefiting gopher tortoises, red-cockaded woodpeckers and pine snakes.

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Expanding Access to Longleaf Pine Seedlings to Support Plantings on Private Lands (AL, FL, GA, MS)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$360,500

Total Project Amount: \$1,360,500

Restore longleaf pine habitat within the historical longleaf pine range by engaging and educating private landowners on the benefits of longleaf pine, improving coordination between seedling nurseries, consulting foresters and landowners, and better forecasting seedling supply and demand. Project will engage up to 75 private landowners to plant 2.2 million longleaf pine seedlings across 3,000 acres, benefiting gopher tortoises, Bachman's sparrows and northern bobwhites.

Expanding Longleaf Pine Market Opportunities for Private Landowners (AL, FL, GA)

Grantee: American Forest Foundation

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$140,000

Total Project Amount: \$1,140,000

Provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners to plant longleaf pine on less productive croplands in Alabama, Florida and Georgia, improving habitat for northern bobwhite and other forest and grassland species. Project will plant 1,000 acres of longleaf pine and assess carbon outcomes to inform a carbon accounting framework for longleaf pine which balances carbon and biodiversity, potentially increasing market opportunities for longleaf pine landowners.

Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration with Historically Underserved Landowners (AL, NC)

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$0

Total Project Amount: \$1,000,000

Expand outreach, education, and technical and financial resources for historically underserved landowners to restore and manage longleaf pine habitat in Alabama and North Carolina. Partners will engage 100 landowners through outreach events, workshops, demonstration sites and hands-on trainings to restore and manage more than 500 acres of longleaf pine habitat benefiting Bachman's sparrow, northern bobwhite and other longleaf-dependent species.

Implementation of Climate-Smart Practices for Conservation and Restoration of Longleaf Forests (AL, GA)

Grantee: Tall Timbers Research

Grant Amount: \$1,200,000

Matching Funds: \$2,272,300

Total Project Amount: \$3,472,300

Assist private landowners with prescribed fire management, longleaf pine plantings, implementation of other forest management practices and protection of existing longleaf habitat with voluntary conservation easements in Alabama



Northern bobwhite

and Georgia. Project will provide landowners with technical assistance and help them access Farm Bill programs to implement practices on 10,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat, benefiting species such as gopher tortoise, red-cockaded woodpecker and northern bobwhite.

Improving Habitat Resiliency and Connectivity in the Montane Longleaf Pine Landscape (AL, GA)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount: \$325,000

Matching Funds: \$325,000

Total Project Amount: \$650,000

Improve habitat connectivity and resiliency of montane longleaf pine ecosystems within northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama, which will benefit species such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, northern bobwhite and Bachman's sparrow. Project will impact more than 20,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat through targeted restoration activities including prescribed burning, timber stand improvements and longleaf pine reforestation.

Increasing Landowner Access to Fire Management and Longleaf Pine Restoration (FL, GA)

Grantee: Alichua Conservation Trust

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$518,200

Total Project Amount: \$1,518,200

Increase landowners' ability to implement fire management and longleaf restoration through prescribed burn crews, technical assistance to private landowners and support of longleaf plantings on public and private lands in north Florida and southeast Georgia. Project will engage 600 private landowners through outreach and education efforts, and restore and enhance more than 14,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat, benefiting species such as gopher tortoise, red-cockaded woodpecker and Bachman's sparrow.

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Increasing Longleaf Pine Restoration through Partner Collaboration in the Gulf Coastal Plain (AL, FL)

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance
 Grant Amount:\$750,000
 Matching Funds:\$2,024,900
 Total Project Amount:\$2,774,900

Restore longleaf pine habitat on private and public lands in southern Alabama and northwestern Florida through improved partner collaboration, benefiting red-cockaded woodpeckers, gopher tortoises and reticulated flatwoods salamanders. Project will restore and enhance at least 40,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat through plantings, prescribed burning and invasive species control, and by providing assistance to private landowners to restore longleaf pine habitat on their lands.

Innovative Approaches to Longleaf Pine and Species Recovery on Private Lands (AL, FL, GA, LA, NC, SC, TX)

Grantee: Wildlife Management Institute
 Grant Amount:\$1,000,000
 Matching Funds:\$150,800
 Total Project Amount:\$1,150,800

Advance longleaf pine habitat restoration and at-risk species recovery with traditional and novel voluntary landowner assurances tools (LATs) within the historical longleaf pine range in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas. Project will assist landowners with longleaf pine planting, prescribed burning and other practices to improve habitat on 1,000 acres, bolster species populations through reintroductions and utilize LATs to provide landowners with regulatory assurances.

Integrating Ecological Grazing and Longleaf Pine Restoration on Private Lands (LA, MS, TX)

Grantee: National Grazing Lands Coalition
 Grant Amount:\$570,000
 Matching Funds:\$76,100
 Total Project Amount:\$646,100

Engage private landowners in east Texas, west-central Louisiana and southern Mississippi in longleaf pine restoration and integration of sustainable grazing practices to support ecological and economic outcomes benefiting northern bobwhite, wild turkey and grassland birds. Project will assist 200 landowners through education, demonstration events, academies as well as one-on-one technical assistance to implement longleaf pine restoration and ecological grazing management on 1,000 acres.

Protecting and Restoring Longleaf Pine Ecosystems through Landowner Outreach in Alabama and Georgia

Grantee: Georgia-Alabama Land Trust
 Grant Amount:\$525,000
 Matching Funds:\$250,000
 Total Project Amount:\$775,000

Increase longleaf pine habitat in Alabama and Georgia by providing technical assistance to landowners, foresters and land management professionals to restore and maintain 5,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat, benefiting gopher

tortoises, eastern indigo snakes and Bachman’s sparrows. Project will engage a network of 500 conservation easement landowners to develop forest management plans, increase acres of longleaf planted and enhance management of existing longleaf stands.

Restoring Longleaf Pine Habitat to Benefit At-Risk Species in Florida and Southwest Georgia

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
 Grant Amount:\$2,000,000
 Matching Funds:\$2,247,300
 Total Project Amount:\$4,247,300

Restore longleaf pine habitat on public and private lands within the eastern panhandle and central peninsula of Florida and southwest Georgia, benefiting at-risk species like the eastern indigo snake and Bachman’s sparrow. Project will plant over 5,000 acres of longleaf pine, improve 30,000 acres of existing longleaf pine by removing competing hardwood trees and prescribed burning, and protect 1,000 acres of private longleaf pine habitat with voluntary conservation easements.

Restoring Longleaf Pine Habitat to Increase Resilience and Biodiversity (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC)

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance
 Grant Amount:\$5,300,000
 Matching Funds:\$1,611,500
 Total Project Amount:\$6,911,500

Restore and enhance longleaf pine ecosystems on public and private lands, focusing on strategic landowner outreach and technical assistance, longleaf reforestation, and at-risk or listed species recovery within the historical longleaf pine range in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina. Project will plant 13,000 acres of longleaf, apply prescribed fire on 21,000 acres and implement strategies to increase listed and at-risk species populations.



Gopher tortoise