



Longleaf Stewardship Fund

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PARTNERS

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- International Paper
- Southern Company
- American Forest Foundation
- Arbor Day Foundation
- Altria Group
- Orton Foundation

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 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.1 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

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Prescribed burning in a longleaf pine forest

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and ten partner organizations announced the 2020 round of funding for Longleaf Stewardship Fund projects. Twenty-three new forest conservation grants totaling \$5.6 million were awarded. The 23 awards announced leveraged more than \$6.9 million in match from the grantees, generating a total conservation impact of \$12.5 million.

The Longleaf 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 result-oriented actions that contribute to the restoration goals of the America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative.

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Restoring Longleaf Pine Habitat on Public and Private Lands in the Fort Stewart/Altamaha Area (GA)

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$265,000
 Matching Funds:\$350,000
 Total Project:\$615,000

Restore 16,500 acres of longleaf pine habitat with prescribed fire and plantings on public and private lands in southeast Georgia. Project will support seasonal burn crews and technical assistance to private landowners to increase restoration on high-priority lands around Fort Stewart, benefiting gopher tortoise, northern bobwhite and other open-pine and grassland-dependent species.

Enhancing Longleaf Habitat in West-Central Louisiana through Planting, Prescribed Fire, and Outreach

Grantee: National Wild Turkey Federation, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:\$311,697
 Total Project:\$611,697

Establish or enhance 5,700 acres of longleaf pine to improve habitat for the Louisiana pine snake and red-cockaded woodpecker in West-central Louisiana, anchored by Fort Polk and Kisatchie National Forest. Project will provide financial assistance to plant new longleaf forests and enhance existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire, as well as support landowner outreach and technical assistance through field days and development of forest management plans.

Improving and Expanding Longleaf Pine Habitat in the Florida Panhandle

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:\$300,000
 Total Project:\$600,000

Restore and enhance 31,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat within the Apalachicola Regional Stewardship Alliance area of the Florida Panhandle located between the Aucilla and Choctawhatchee Rivers. Project will plant longleaf pine and understory species, implement fire and mechanical management in existing longleaf habitat, and provide financial assistance to priority private landowners, improving habitat for the eastern indigo snake and Bachman's sparrow.

Collaborating to Restore Longleaf in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership Landscape (AL, FL)

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:\$809,109
 Total Project:\$1,109,109

Restore and maintain 44,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat in south Alabama and the western panhandle region of Florida to benefit rare and declining species such as the Bachman's sparrow, red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise and



Gopher tortoise

northern bobwhite. Project will provide technical assistance to private landowners and deploy an ecosystem support team to implement prescribed burning, plant longleaf pine, remove invasive species, and support rare species recovery on public and private lands.

Restoring Longleaf Pine Habitat in the North Carolina Sandhills

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:\$400,975
 Total Project:\$700,975

Implement prescribed burning and longleaf habitat restoration on 44,000 acres of public and private lands within the Sandhills region of North Carolina, which encompasses Fort Bragg and Uwharrie National Forest. Project will support burn crews to increase burning capacity and assist with mid-story control and other management, improving habitat for Bachman's sparrow, red-cockaded woodpecker, and northern bobwhite.

Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration in the South Carolina Sandhills Region

Grantee: Chesterfield County Soil and Water Conservation District

Grant Amount:\$299,000
 Matching Funds:\$303,960
 Total Project:\$602,960

Establish and improve 1,600 acres of longleaf pine forest on public and private lands in Chesterfield and Darlington Counties, South Carolina, which will benefit northern bobwhite, Bachman's sparrow, and southern hognose snake. Project will utilize geospatial data to improve outreach to high priority landowners, provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners to restore and maintain longleaf pine, and increase prescribed burning capacity with a burn specialist.

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Advancing Longleaf Pine Restoration and Management in East Texas

Grantee: Texas A&M Forest Service

Grant Amount:\$181,971

Matching Funds:\$183,865

Total Project:\$365,836

Engage private landowners through education, outreach, and technical and financial assistance to restore, enhance, and conserve 1,000 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood forest in East Texas. Project will reach landowners through workshops and county landowner association meetings, and promote stewardship planning, prescribed burning, and other forest management practices, benefiting northern bobwhite, Swainson's warbler, and game species, such as wild turkey.

Longleaf Pine Restoration and Red-cockaded Woodpecker Recovery in the South Carolina Coastal Plain

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$292,000

Matching Funds:\$295,300

Total Project:\$587,300

Restore, enhance and conserve more than 5,000 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood forest and support recovery of the federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker in the South Carolina Coastal Plain, north of Charleston. Project will provide public and private landowner outreach and financial assistance for longleaf establishment, prescribed burning, and working forest conservation easements, as well as translocation of red-cockaded woodpeckers to state lands and private properties.

Restoring Longleaf Forest Habitat on Private Lands in South Georgia to Benefit At-risk Species

Grantee: Georgia Forestry Commission

Grant Amount:\$300,000

Matching Funds:\$300,000

Total Project:\$600,000

Restore and enhance 15,000 acres of longleaf pine on family forests to improve habitat for at-risk species in south Georgia. Project will engage and educate non-industrial private forest landowners and provide technical and financial assistance to actively manage priority habitat and improve populations of imperiled species, including gopher tortoise and eastern indigo snake.

Georgia Longleaf Stewardship on Private Lands - II

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation

Grant Amount:\$150,000

Matching Funds:\$150,000

Total Project:\$300,000

Identify and engage at least 40 landowners through wildlife and forestry technical assistance to restore and



Young longleaf pine

maintain longleaf pine habitat in Georgia. Project will utilize collaborative, data-driven outreach to restore and enhance 2,350 acres of longleaf pine, expanding and connecting existing longleaf forests to improve habitat for at-risk species, such as gopher tortoise, as well as game species such as wild turkey and northern bobwhite.

Linking Healthy Longleaf Pine Forest Management and Carbon Data for Landowner Benefit (SC)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$100,000

Matching Funds:\$138,595

Total Project:\$238,595

Utilize data from an innovative longleaf pine carbon monitoring project in coastal South Carolina to better understand carbon uptake from healthy managed longleaf pine forests. Project will conduct a workshop to inform 25 landowners about carbon markets, create an informative brochure for continued use with landowners and partners, and communicate carbon sequestration data findings to professionals across the Southeast.

South-lowcountry and ACE Basin Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration Partnership (SC) - VI

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$286,000

Matching Funds:\$300,500

Total Project:\$586,500

Establish 850 acres of longleaf pine and enhance an additional 5,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat with

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prescribed fire and mid-story hardwood removal on public and private lands within the South-Lowcountry and ACE Basin in South Carolina. Project will conserve working forests with conservation easements and restore populations of gopher tortoises by hatching and releasing up to 100 juvenile tortoises on restored habitat.

Restoring Longleaf Pine and Bottomland Hardwood Forest in the Bladen Lakes Region (NC)

Grantee: North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Grant Amount:\$148,000
 Matching Funds:\$161,900
 Total Project:\$309,900

Plant 491 acres of longleaf pine and enhance an additional 8,400 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fires and thinnings on public and private lands in the Bladen Lakes region of North Carolina, increasing habitat for red-cockaded woodpecker. Project will train landowners and professionals to conduct prescribed burns on longleaf forests, enroll landowners in the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Safe Harbor program, and develop management plans to improve bottomland hardwood forest habitat.

Onslow Bight Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration - V (NC)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:\$510,000
 Total Project:\$810,000

Restore and enhance 35,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat on public and private lands in the Onslow Bight region of eastern North Carolina. Project will increase prescribed burning through a burn crew to assist partners with longleaf management, complete aerial ignition burns to improve safety and effectiveness while burning in volatile fuels, remove invasive species, and monitor Bachman's sparrow response to habitat restoration.

Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration in the Talladega Mountains (AL, GA)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$274,000
 Matching Funds:\$300,000
 Total Project:\$574,000

Plant 420 acres of longleaf pine and improve an additional 17,500 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire within the Talladega Mountains Longleaf Pine Conservation Partnership area of north-central Alabama and northwest Georgia. Project will increase prescribed fire capacity with seasonal burn crews and establish longleaf on a recently acquired property adjoining the Talladega National Forest, benefitting red-cockaded woodpecker and other longleaf-dependent species.



Red-cockaded woodpecker chick

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

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$275,000
 Matching Funds:\$300,000
 Total Project:\$575,000

Establish 1,000 acres of longleaf pine and improve the management of an additional 50,000 acres of longleaf habitat with prescribed fire on public and private lands in south Georgia and northeast Florida. Project will target longleaf pine establishment and improved management on lands that will maximize wildlife habitat value and connectivity and reduce the likelihood and impact of catastrophic wildfire.

Accelerating Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration in the Chattahoochee Fall Line Area - V (GA, AL)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$283,000
 Matching Funds:\$356,000
 Total Project:\$639,000

Accelerate longleaf pine conservation on more than 20,400 acres of public and private land in west Georgia and east Alabama, benefitting red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise and other at-risk species. Project will improve forests through silvicultural treatments and implement prescribed fire on existing and restored longleaf habitat, with activities focused on properties buffering Fort Benning, as well as high priority state and privately owned lands.

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Restoring and Maintaining Longleaf Pine in the Ocala Local Implementation Team Geography (FL)

Grantee: Alichua Conservation Trust, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$285,000

Matching Funds:\$300,000

Total Project:\$585,000

Enhance 18,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat and establish an additional 1,000 acres of longleaf pine seedlings to benefit red cockaded woodpecker, Bachman's sparrow, and gopher tortoise in north-central Florida. Project will engage private landowners in longleaf restoration through a prescribed burn association, and will restore and enhance longleaf pine habitat on the Ocala National Forest and public and private lands surrounding Camp Blanding Joint Training Center.

Partnering to Restore and Enhance Longleaf in Mississippi

Grantee: Mississippi Forestry Foundation

Grant Amount:\$122,500

Matching Funds:\$208,354

Total Project:\$330,854

Establish 325 acres of longleaf pine and enhance an additional 4,000 acres of longleaf habitat with prescribed fires and thinnings in south Mississippi. Project will coordinate restoration and outreach activities across multiple partners, engage private landowners through educational workshops, and provide technical and financial assistance to landowners to plant longleaf pine seedlings, implement prescribed burning, and remove mid-story hardwoods to improve habitat for gopher tortoise.

Improving Habitat for At-risk Species in South Alabama's Longleaf Forests - II

Grantee: Alabama Forestry Foundation

Grant Amount:\$300,000

Matching Funds:\$320,000

Total Project:\$620,000

Engage family forest owners in south Alabama to restore and enhance longleaf pine forests to improve habitat for at-risk species, such as gopher tortoise, eastern indigo snake and eastern hognose snake. Project will reach and educate landowners through direct mail and social media marketing, workshops and field days, restore 11,500 acres of longleaf through plantings, prescribed burning, and invasive species control, and collect gopher tortoise population data on private lands.

Alabama Longleaf Pine Restoration on Private Lands - VI

Grantee: Alabama Wildlife Federation

Grant Amount:\$116,538

Matching Funds:\$116,538

Total Project:\$233,077

Restore and enhance nearly 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



Longleaf pine forest

identifying eligible incentive programs for establishing and managing longleaf pine and associated wildlife habitat.

Development of a Planted Longleaf Pine Growth and Yield Model for the Southeast (AL, FL, GA, NC, SC)

Grantee: University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$244,000

Matching Funds:\$137,101

Total Project:\$381,101

Create a new growth and yield model system for longleaf pine that will allow more accurate growth projections for landowners considering longleaf pine reforestation who may have timber management objectives. Project will establish, monument, and measure permanent plots in planted unthinned longleaf pine stands on cut-over sites in the southeast US, and the data will be used to calibrate a growth and yield model for multiple factors for longleaf pine.

Restoring Longleaf Pine on Large-Acreage Private Lands (GA, LA, SC)

Grantee: Forest Landowners Association

Grant Amount:\$200,000

Matching Funds:\$420,000

Total Project:\$620,000

Establish 1,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 4,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands in Georgia, Louisiana and South Carolina. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands and provide technical and financial assistance to support planting and management, with a particular focus on restoring forest lands impacted by hurricanes Michael and Florence in Georgia and South Carolina.