



Cumberland Plateau Stewardship Fund

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PARTNERS

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Altria Group
- American Forest 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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BACKGROUND

The Cumberland Plateau Stewardship Fund (CPSF) was established in 2013 to restore forest and freshwater habitats to conditions that will improve associated wildlife species and the health of freshwater systems, while advancing strategies to support working forests. The fund helps nonprofits, government agencies, and other local partners work together to accelerate restoration of shortleaf pine and oak savanna, riparian forest, and in-stream habitats in strategic geographies within the greater Cumberland Plateau region.

The CPSF will award at least \$1 million per year in competitive grants that support five priority strategies: establishing shortleaf pine and oak forests; enhancing and maintaining existing shortleaf pine-oak ecosystems; restoring and enhancing riparian forests and watershed health; expanding and coordinating technical assistance and outreach; and facilitating conservation easements. In eight years, the fund has invested a total of \$7.6 million in 53 projects, leveraging more than \$10.5 million in conservation resources.

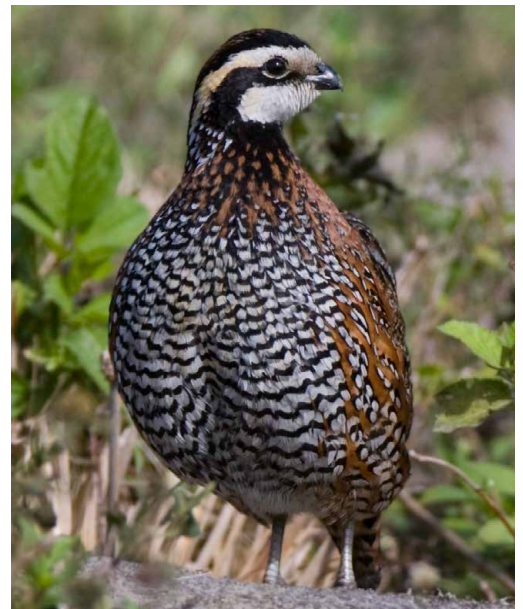
The CPSF is a public-private partnership, with federal funding provided by the USDA's Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and private funding from International Paper's Forestland Stewards Partnership, Altria Group and the American Forest Foundation's Southern Woods for At-Risk Wildlife Partnership.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals of the fund include:

- Establishing shortleaf pine and oak forests
- Enhancing and maintaining existing shortleaf pine-oak ecosystems
- Restoring and enhancing riparian forests and watershed health to support aquatic species
- Expanding and coordinating technical assistance and outreach
- Supporting conservation easements

The fund's investments are targeted primarily to focal areas that were selected by scientifically analyzing upland and riparian forest and freshwater systems within the greater Cumberland Plateau region. These focal areas represent locations with the greatest potential for forest and freshwater habitat restoration for terrestrial and aquatic species based on resource mapping, interviews with practitioners in the field, and capacity to carry out work.



Northern bobwhite



Obed River, Tennessee